Factsheet FIVE

37

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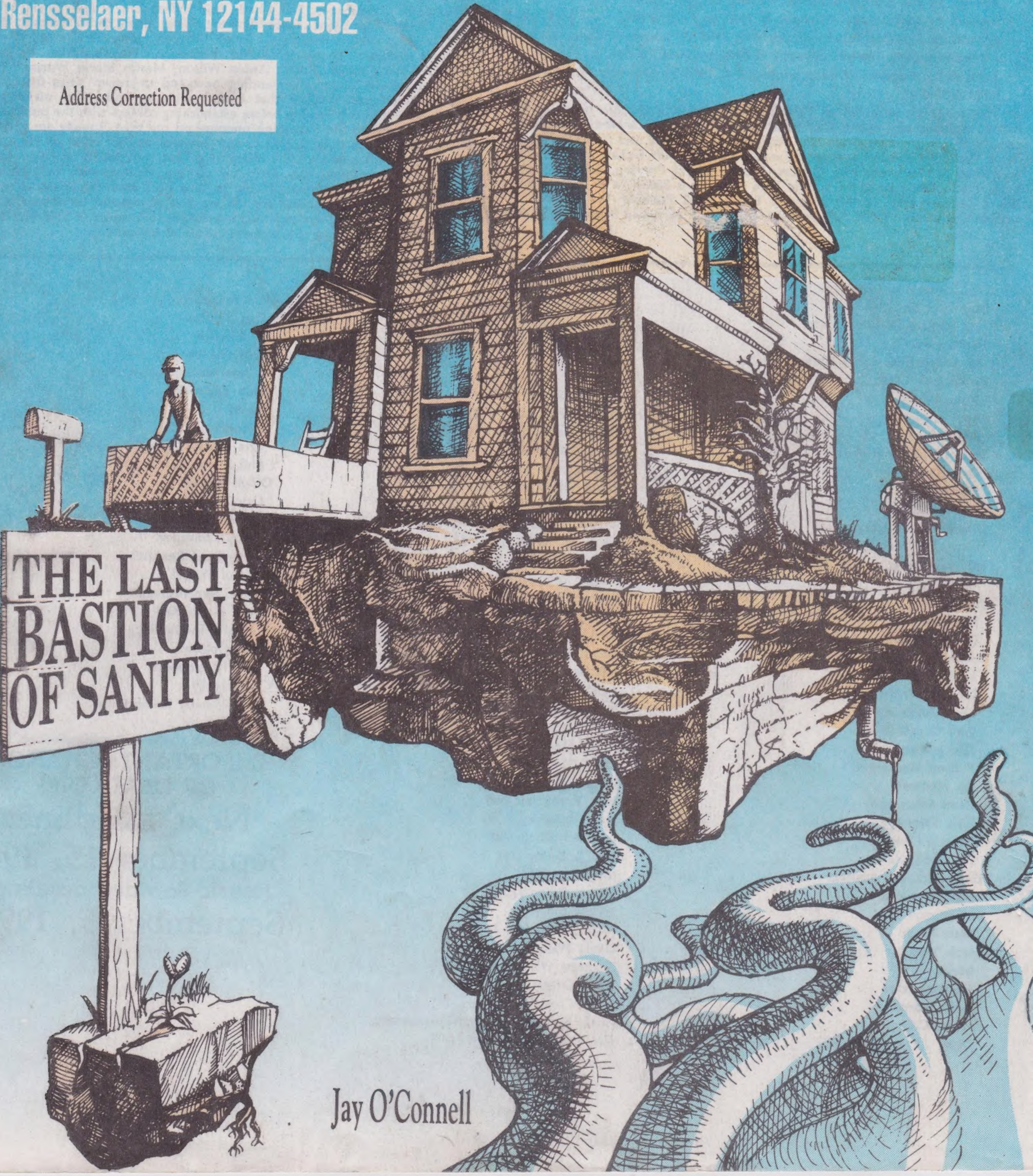

THE LAST BASTION OF SANITY

Jay O'Connell

FACTSHEET FIVE #37

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This magazine was set in Palatino seven, eight and nine point, with twelve, eighteen and twenty-four point Palatino heads, on a Hewlett Packard LaserJet Series II printer, from files produced using Sprint and formatted with Xerox Ventura Publisher version 2.0 enhanced with Soft Kicker, and printed on a Web Leader press with Quadra-Color at World Printing, Albany, New York. Production computers include a 16 MHz Zeos 386SX, a 12 MHz Zeos 286, a Leading Edge Model D and a Tandy WP-2 Portable. For software I wouldn't be without 4DOS 3.0, Swapdos 1.00, GRABPlus, and Super PC-KWIK 1.54. If you want to know more than this, phone me, so I can stop boring other people, OK?

Thanks to Wayne Alan Brenner, Dave Christy, Frank, Albert Huffstickler, R.J. McLin, Eric Scoles, Simeon Stylites, Paul Tumey, Noemie Vassilakis, John W., Joe Workman (for the profit-sharing) and an anonymous patriot for their generous donations towards publishing this issue. I am much encouraged by the number of generous publishers willing to contribute to keeping FF alive. I don't require publishers to subscribe, but if you can afford it, I appreciate it and it helps.

Thanks to Cameron Adams, Max Airborne, Jon Bekken, Carl Bettis, Doug Biggert, Bob Black, Drew Blood, Brain Prolapse, Gareth Branwyn, Brian Burch, Noah Bunnett, Donald F. Busky, Diane Callahan, Edward C. Connors, Jeff Copenhagen, Maxim Décharné, Paul Di Filippo, Chris Dodge, Jim Downard, Simon Dumenco, Graham Evans, Mike Ford, Jim Fortney, Lucinda Goodwin, Dan Goodman, Gene Guthrie, Michael Jacobs, Matt Jasper, Bill Kieffer, Todd Mason, Mike Marinacci, Rod Matheson, Sid Miller, Fred Mills, Brad Mitchell, Avi Naftel, R.J. Neubauer, Rad Chad, Phil Scalice, Eric Scoles, Doyle Adam Seward, Singh, Tom Slone, Stacey Sollfrey, Dale Speirs, Belka Stamas, Stev, Mark Strickert, Shawn Swagerty, Tane' Tachyon, Jerry Tomlinson, Cheryl Townsend, Noemie Vassilakis, David Walbridge, Wayno, Brian Wayson, Elizabeth Wilding-White, Robert Anton Wilson, Martin Morse Wooster, Bud Wooten and Ernst Zöllner for sending new and unknown zines for me to review in this issue. I regret that I am unable to review the majority of material arriving in this fashion before establishing contact with the publishers. This is solely due to the increasing pressure on my time. I really am grateful to those of you out there acting as my spotters in the world of the small press, and wish I could review everything—but the priority goes to those folks actively trading with me. Keep 'em coming, though; with the increased staff around here we should be able to dive back into this material soon. Special thanks to Luke McGuff for the big box of material for the archives, to Bob Z. for another big box including twenty-year-old copies of **THE MATCH**, and to Raisin Blowme for the archival copies of his zine.

Founderer Emeritus
St. Michael D. Miller, retd.
Spiritual Advisor
St. Stephen Xavier of Trever
Visual Arts Critic
Anni Ackner
Poetry Critic
P.J. Bellomo
Special Guest Reviewers
Dan Armstrong
Steve Blum
Cari Goldberg
Official Curmudgeon
Garry De Young
Utility Infielder
Geof Huth
Fisherman
Joe Lane
(with help from Lori Hixon)
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L.J. Cunningham
Karin Falcone
Tom Gogola
Ken Johnson
William Meckley
Jay Mentes
Carol Schutzbank
Kyle Silfer
Dina Williams
Phil Zampino
Experioddica Consultant
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Net Worker
Marc Bloch
Staph Trickster
Misha
Videonetworker
Belka Stamas
Official Conspirator
Kerry W. Thornley, KSC

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IMPORTANT: CHANGE OF DEADLINE!

Next Deadline: September 15, 1990

(music & video deadline
September 5, 1990)

FACTSHEET FIVE

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Welcome to another issue of the zine of crosscurrents and cross-pollination. Available by mail or in person from Mike Gunderloy, 6 Arizona Ave., Rensselaer, NY 12144-4502; phone (518)-479-3707 (24-hour answering machine, so call anytime); 300/1200/2400 baud phone (518)-479-3879 (call anytime you have a computer handy). Compuserve address is 72271,275; from InterNet, you can get there by addressing mail to 72271.275@compuserve.com. On The Well, I'm ffmike; the Netmail address for this is ffmike@well.sf.ca.us. This is Pretzel Press publication #840 and is intended for direct Bulk Mailing to subscribers and good people across the country, around the world, and right into your face. Press run: 7000 copies (slight drop because we're not advertising as heavily this month). 37th issue, August 1990.

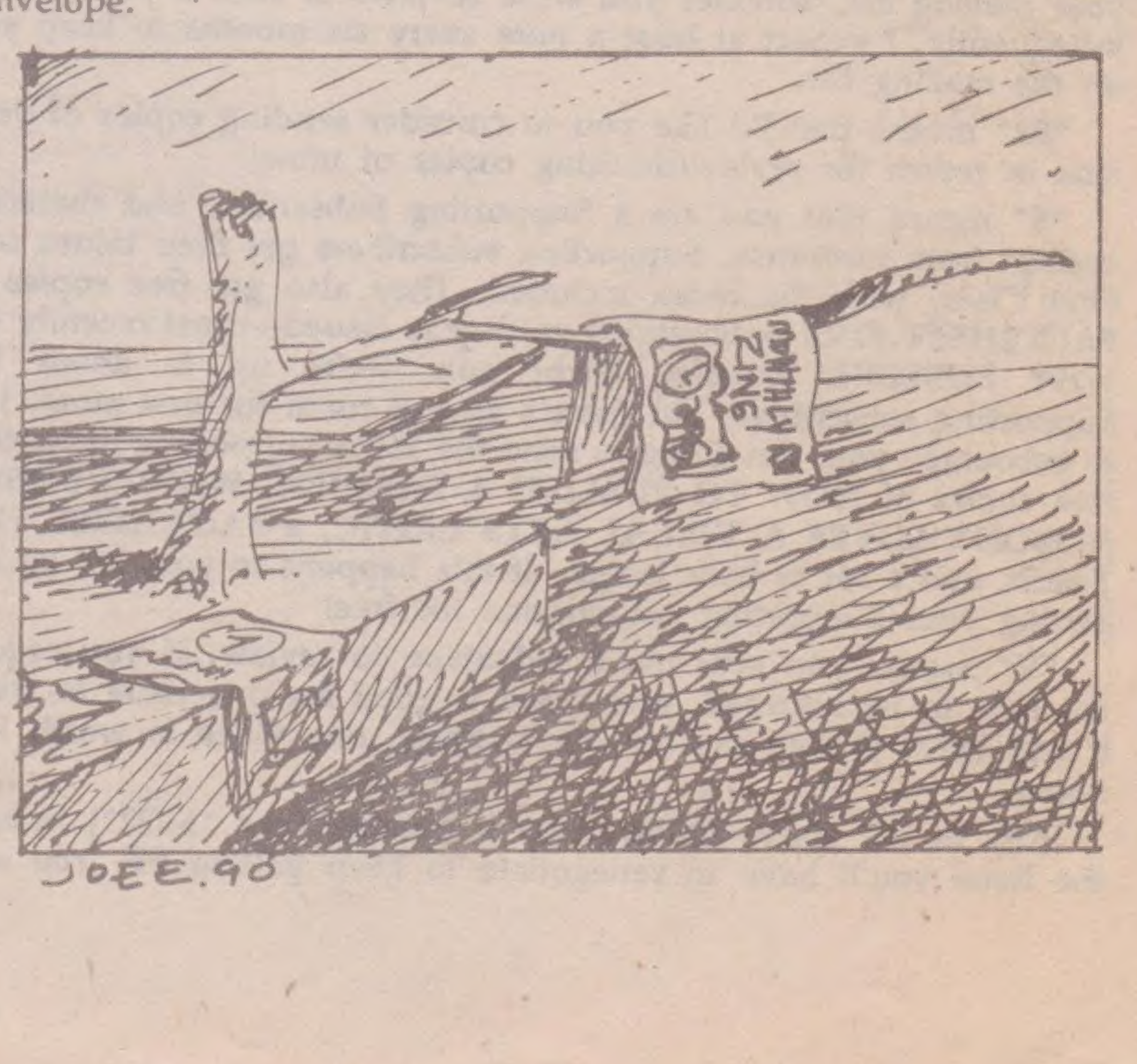
FACTSHEET FIVE is published six times a year, appearing in the mails on or about the tenth of February, April, June, August, October, and December. Deadlines for **FACTSHEET FIVE** are the 20th of January, March, May, July, September, and November. Our production schedule is very tight; missing the deadline by even one day almost always guarantees that your work will wait for the next issue.

Back issues of **FACTSHEET FIVE** are available as follows:

#1,2,3,4,17.1	$1 each
#18,20-33	$2 each
#5-17, 34-36	$3 each
#19	$5 each
Complete set	$80

A glossary of unusual terms used in **FF** is available for a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Guidelines for artists are available for a stamped, self-addressed envelope.



YOUR MAILING LABEL

This is where I explain the mailing code, on the far right of the first line of the address label.

A number indicates the last issue that you'll be getting. So if the number is "37", you need to Do Something if you want to keep getting **FF**. If the number is "37" and you don't even know why you got this, you probably have a Secret Admirer or something. Wanna subscribe?

There are a couple of things that can flank this number. If it's flanked with asterisks (*37*), you've paid for, and should be getting, first class postage. If it's flanked with carets (^37^), then this is a trade copy for which you paid first-class postage, after which you will revert to bulk-mail trade copies. If it's flanked with plus signs (+37+) you're getting a library subscription, including first-class postage, mailing envelopes, and the index.

"!" indicates that you've got nothing to worry about, because you're on the staph, you won a contest, or you just got lucky.

"A" means that you're getting this because of your artwork; either you sent me some or I want you to send me some, or both.

"B" means I'm trading for a book you sent.

"D" means that you're a distributor and so you get one copy for yourself as a freebie. I'm looking for new distributors, people who think they can sell at least ten copies and want to split the proceeds. Distributors get a 40% wholesale discount on all copies, and may sell on consignment. The number after the colon is how many copies I think I'm sending you. For more information on terms, send an SASE.

"L" means you're a lifetime subscriber, and will receive every issue of the magazine as long as either it or you is alive. Lifetime subscribers get their copies sent out bulk mail, without extra goodies. If you want extra goodies, you should be a supporting subscriber (see below) instead. Lifetime subscribers may upgrade to supporting status at any time by paying the current difference in rates.

"M" means you sent me music to review. I usually allow 2 issues for a single, 3 for a tape, or 4 for an LP, but I screw up a bit, so let me know if you're owed more. (Or less).

"P" means you're a prisoner. **FACTSHEET FIVE** is always free to prisoners, but you need to keep in touch to keep getting it, otherwise I'll assume the copies aren't getting through to you. Wardens, you gotta pay like anyone else. Prisoners in mental institutions are extended the same privileges as those in allegedly-saner criminal institutions. *Prisoners must write at least every other issue to stay on the mailing list!* Yes, this is a change of policy; the cost of mailing to prisoners who do not indicate continued interest is getting out of hand.

"R" means that this is a review/checking copy. It is for you to have to check the review I've done of your zine, or to be able to do a review of mine. I would like to see further copies of yours for future review—though of course you're not obligated to publish a review. I will continue to send you R copies as long as I stay on your mailing list, whether you write reviews or not. If you publish infrequently, I expect at least a note every six months to keep you on the mailing list.

"R?" means that I'd like you to consider sending copies of your zine in return for review/checking copies of mine.

"S" means that you are a Supporting Subscriber, and therefore exempt from nonsense. Supporting subscribers get their issues sent First Class, with the index included. They also get free copies of **FACTSHEET FIVE** publications as they're issued—most recently the **WHY PUBLISH?** booklet. Right now we're up to about 102 Supporting subscribers, but there's always room for one more. Just to encourage you, I'm going to send the 150th Supporting Subscriber free copies of **HOW TO PUBLISH A FANZINE, WHY PUBLISH?, NOBODY LOVES A VISUAL ARTS CRITIC**, a **FACTSHEET FIVE** T-shirt, and a set of back issues—if this happens to you, it'll be like getting your Supporting subscription for free!

"V" means you sent me a videotape to review. If you require the tape to be returned, one video is good for one issue in trade; if you leave it with me for the archives, one video is worth four issues.

Any of the above followed by a number (like "M/37") indicate the issue you'll have to renegotiate to keep getting **FF**. *You must get in touch with me at least once every two issues, regardless of the mailing code, to continue getting* **FF**! This applies to prisoners, artists, traders, everyone!

Send me your zine, drop me a line, do **SOMETHING** so I know you're still out there. Actually, this doesn't apply to subscribers, only to people getting the zine for free. Clear?

Please take a moment to check your mailing label. If there are any mistakes, you have to let me know. They won't fix themselves. And you won't get any further warning if your subscription has run out.

And remember, **FF** is sent *bulk mail*. Not only does this make it slow (though, I hope, not *too* slow), but it means undeliverable copies go to that Big Post Office In The Sky. So **PLEASE** get your COAs to me promptly to avoid missing issues. I am not responsible for copies lost due to unannounced moves.

Here's the basic subscription rates: (all orders should be mailed to **FACTSHEET FIVE, 6 Arizona Ave., Rensselaer, NY 12144-4502)**

Regular subscription (bulk rate in the US, surface rate elsewhere): $3.00 or 8 IRCs per issue up to five issues, $16 or 40 IRCs for a six issue (one year) subscription.

First class subscription (U.S. only): $3.75 per issue up to five issues, $21 for a six issue (one year) subscription.

Library subscription (includes the index and first class mailing in a protective envelope) (U.S. only): $4.50 per issue up to five issues, $23 for a six issue (one year) subscription.

Surface Mail subscription (outside U.S. only): $4 or 10 IRCs per issue up to five issues, $22 or 55 IRCs for a six issue (one year) subscription.

Air Mail subscription (outside U.S. only): $7 or 18 IRCs per issue up to five issues, $38 or 95 IRCs for a six issue (one year) subscription.

Lifetime subscription (anywhere in North America): $75.

Lifetime subscription (outside of North America): $190.

Supporting subscription (anywhere in North America): $125.

Supporting subscription (outside of North America): $330.

I accept for payment cash (U.S. or otherwise), check or money order *drawn in U.S. funds* (please make payable to **FACTSHEET FIVE**), or international reply coupons. Please note that I cannot accept checks or money orders drawn in foreign currency. I am, however, happy to accept cash (bank notes) from any country at the official rate of exchange. If you live in a country whose currency does not convert, please write and we'll work out a deal. Those in the Warsaw Pact are encouraged to request a sample copy in exchange for local publications, underground or otherwise.

FF now takes MasterCard and Visa! (Awesome, isn't it?) For orders over $10 *only*, you can charge it, by mail, phone, or computer. By mail, be sure to send your card type (MasterCard or Visa), number, expiration date, name as it appears on the card, and a daytime phone number, as well as your signature. By phone, call (518)-479-3707 and leave the same informaton (minus the signature, of course). By computer, call the FF BBS at (518)-479-3879 and take the (Q)uestionnaire option from the main menu.

Unless you specify otherwise, all subscriptions start with the current issue.

TIRED OF WAITING FOR BULK MAIL? You can upgrade a Bulk Mail subscription to First Class delivery at any time by sending $1 for each issue remaining on your Bulk Mail subscription. Publishers and others who get their issues without paying may have them delivered first class for $1 per issue. This rate is only valid if you would have received that issue anyhow.

If you want **FF** sent to a friend, just send me their address and $3, or $3.75 if you're in a hurry. **FF** makes a great Christmas, birthday, or Bar Mitzvah present. I'll mark it as a gift from you unless you specify otherwise.

In lieu of sending stamps, money, fanzines, artwork, books, or music, you can get **FF** by sending me something to review that I haven't seen before, or by bartering canned goods, negotiable securities, wind-up sushi, shark's teeth, Magic Rocks, limited edition wallpaper, or other interesting or amusing flotsam from our society.

Addresses for FF Columnists:

Anni Ackner, PO Box 18, Reading, PA 19603
Marc Bloch, PO Box 1500, New York, NY 10009
Garry De Young, PO Box 7252, Spencer, IA 51301-7252
Joe Lane, PO Box 4083, Terre Haute, IN 47804-4083
Ted Stamas, 1218 S. 11th St, Philadelphia, PA 19147
Kerry Thornley, PO Box 5498, Atlanta, GA 30307

FACTSHEET FIVE PROJECTS

•**STALKING THE WILD READER IN RIVER CITY** is the latest booklet from **FACTSHEET FIVE.** It's a 56-page account of the small press over the last couple of decades in Terre Haute, Indiana, written by our Fishing Hole columnist Joe Lane. The cover price is $5, but you can get a copy postpaid for $4 because you're smart enough to read about it here.

•A couple of things which used to be **FF** projects are now being handled by other people. The Gemstone File, that medley of modern conspiracy theory running over 100 pages, is available for $12.50 from Ron Bonds, IllumiNet Press, PO Box 746, Avondale, GA 30002. Ron will give you 5¢ per page credit for new conspiracy material you send him in trade. And Martti Koski's pamphlet **MY LIFE DEPENDS ON YOU,** telling of his own experiences with mind control at the hands of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, may be ordered for $1 from Scott Tinch, 453 Robertsville Rd., Oak Ridge, TN 37830.

•A short list of fanzine and other resources for prisoners is available to any prisoner for the asking. Just drop me a line requesting a copy.

•I now have available for other publishers a list of distributors and stores who would like to see new zines for possible sale. This includes all the folks who sell FF, whether directly or to stores, and with as many details as possible on what they want and what their terms are as I know. Send me an SASE (be sure to tell me what it's for!) and I'll send you a copy.

•The collected **WHY PUBLISH?** book, including most of the words published on this subject in the first 30 issues of **FF**, as well as new material from Miekal And, Joel Biroco, Stewart Brand and Merritt Clifton, is now available for only $3.50 postpaid. Don't miss this; there were only 500 printed and I probably won't do any more.

•The collected book of Anni Ackner's columns is out at last!. The collection is called **NOBODY LOVES A VISUAL ARTS CRITIC,** and it features all of her writings from **FF**, as well as four new columns (unavailable elsewhere), an introduction by Elayne Wechsler and graphics by Freddie Baer. 134 pages long, you can get a copy book rate for $4, or first class for $5.50. 75% of the profits are going to Anni, so I'd really like to sell a lot of these. Think what they'll be worth in twenty years when she's a wealthy mainstream author.

•**FACTSHEET FIVE** T-Shirts, designed by Freddie Baer, are now available for a measley $8.50 postpaid. The only color available is yellow, but it's a yellow that will knock your eyes back into your skull, not some wimpy pastel color. Well, actually, the second edition is a bit wimpier (so you early buyers, you have a collectors' item!), but still beautiful. Specify size or we'll send you whatever we feel like. Think of the possibilities for starting a conversation!

•I now have a new set of **FACTSHEET FIVE** ads available, also typeset and put together by Freddie Baer. In the future I may swap or pay for some of these to be published, but meanwhile if you want to give me a free plug write and I'll send you a copy.

•I am still offering the **FACTSHEET FIVE** mailing list on self-adhesive labels. This issue's list of around 4200 names is available for $150. If you prefer, you can get the list on plain paper for $115.

•I am also prepared to offer the mailing list on IBM-PC compatible DSDD diskettes. The mailing list is archived on one diskette and I'll include the shareware DBMS I use (PC-FILE+) on three more diskettes. *You must have a hard disk to access the FF mailing list!* If you are interested in getting the actual text of the zine on diskette, please contact me to discuss appropriate hardware and software, or check the FF BBS. You can get the mailing list set for $18.

•From time to time the **FACTSHEET FIVE** mailing list is sold to various folks who want to send out fliers, catalogs, or who knows what else. Most of my readers seem to appreciate this. However, there may be those of you who don't want to receive the Loompanics Catalog at your home. If you'd like to be taken off the mailing lists I sell, just send me a note and I'll take care of it at once.

•And speaking of mailing lists, I'm now maintaining a list of electronic mail addresses for people involved in fanzines. Since this is rather pointless if you don't have a computer, I'm not offering paper copies. You can download the latest version from the **FF BBS** (518-479-3707) which is also a good place to leave me mail if you'd like to be added to the list.

•The **FF ZINE EXCHANGE** is still running, although there's a bit of a material shortage right now and it remains, as always, a low priorit compared to actually publishing the magazine. Zine Editors: If you're at all interested in having samples of your zine go to people who don't even know you exist, send as many as you want to me to distribute. The rest of you: Send me an SASE with 25¢ to $2.40 postage and I'll stuff it with whatever I have laying about ($2.40 is enough to mail a couple of pounds in the country, so use a decent-sized envelope [10x13 is a good size]: two pounds is about 8 issues of FF, OK?). You should also take a look at a rate chart; while $2.40 will cover postage on two pounds, $2.30 is only enough for eleven ounces. I'd recommend springing for the full two pounds. You might also take note of some similar offers:

Absinthe Press's (537 Jones St. #484, San Francisco, CA 94102) offer of a SAN FRANCISCO FUNPAK of cultural and tourist freebies about that city is available to anyone who sends a 9x12 SASE with $2.40 in postage, or who sends 3 IRCs or a similar package from their own local scene in a foreign country.

Lucinda Goodwin's (PO Box 127224, San Diego, CA 92112) offer to stuff large SASEs with "as many zines and other neat stuff that it can hold."

Gene Guthrie's (6221 Acton Rd., Indianapolis, IN 46259) offer to send local freebies to anyone who sends him postage;

The "Small Press Food Shelf" is run by the **POETRY HARBOR** folks in Duluth (1619 Jefferson St., Duluth, MN 55812): they give stuff away in person and *not* by mail, so don't send for it, but they'd be delighted to have your excess literary output to distribute;

Dallas Swan's (PO Box 270, Horntown, VA 23395) offer to fill up large SASEs with as many zines as they will hold;

Jim Testa's (151 First Ave., Box A., New York, NY 10003) Demo Xchange of band demo tapes, also available for a few dollars postage;

R. Wherever's (11 Bayberry Ln., Cohasset, MA 02025) offer to fill up large SASEs with as many zines as they will hold.

and Rosemary West's (PO Box 8059, Mission Hills, CA 91346) offer of personalized computer-generated poetry for 50¢ an ounce, up to five pounds—send your name and the names of a few friends to assure personalization.

Anyhow, remember, send a SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE to minimize the work I have to do. I mean it. The next person who sends a blank envelope and a check, instead of buying the stamps himself and pasting them on, is going to get something nasty in the mail. If he gets anything at all. OK, OK, I'll make an exception for those of you in foreign countries: just send me a check or cash and a self-addressed envelope and I'll do the rest. Those out of the country can supply up to $4.50 worth of postage, since the rates are higher. Those in the country should stop using such obviously glued stamps or I'm going to start pitching your envelopes in the trash. *This has already happened to some people stupid enough to ignore what I've said! Use mint stamps only!!* (Look, it's OK to glue down un-used stamps; what I'm upset about it people putting the glue over the top of them so they can be re-used. If this doesn't make sense to you, call me). And please be patient; Zine Exchange envelopes are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. The backlog of orders waiting to be filled has been reduced considerably in the last few months, but there's still something like a 2-month line ahead of you.

A few clarifications about the Zine Exchange: No, I am not going to send you any back issues of **FACTSHEET FIVE.** No, you may not request a specific zine you saw reviewed here; that copy is in the archives, and that's where it's staying. You can request a specific type of zine, but often I cannot fill requests; it depends on what's been sent to me recently for distribution.

•I put together an index to each issue, usually about a 24-page pamphlet. If you want to see a copy, send me $1.50. To get it every issue, you should sign up for a library rate subscription.

•**HOW TO PUBLISH A FANZINE** is, alas, out of print. If you don't have a copy, you'll have to wait for the next edition, scheduled for early 1991.

GETTING ZINES

Just a few hints to consider when you're writing away for fanzines:

•If I list a name in the address for a zine, you ought to make checks or money orders out to that name rather than the zine name. If a zine has odd payment requirements, I try to note this in the address section of the listing. In general, cash is preferable to money orders which are preferable to checks.

•On a related topic, when I put a question mark after the price it means that I'm guessing because the zine editors didn't list a price.

•I list single copy rates whenever I can find them, otherwise I try to indicate how many issues your subscription covers. If I put something like "$10/yr" it means I can't tell how many issues come out in a year.

•If I separate issue numbers with a dash, they're single issues; a slash indicates two-in-one issues. So, for example, "#7-11/12" indicates that I received #7, a double issue containing #11 and #12, and everything in between. Prices given are for one issue, not for a set of all the issues reviewed, unless otherwise indicated.

•On zines with a price under $1, it really helps to include a few stamps for postage. "SASE" means self-addressed stamped envelope: #10 with 25¢ postage unless otherwise specified.

•Don't send loose coins in an envelope. If you want to send coins, tape them to an index card and wrap a piece of paper around that. And remember that there's a postal surcharge on envelopes more than 1/4 inch thick.

•Canadians and some Britishers generally don't mind receiving U.S. funds in cash. For Canada it is generally safe to send US$1 for each C$1 in price; the exchange rate is high enough to cover postage. For Great Britain, US$2 for each £1 asking price similarly allows for postage even after covering the exchange. For other countries you should think about alternative payment. Foreign currency is available at larger banks, and IRCs (International Reply Coupons, which can be exchanged for stamps almost anywhere in the world) at your post office. Foreign MOs are also available from the post office, but can take forever to get. Sending checks to other countries is not a good idea; bank exchange charges can be outrageous.

•"Age Statement" means that you should send along a signed note saying that you're over 18 (or over 21, if you are) to help the publisher avoid legal hassles associated with distributing sexually-explicit material.

•"The Usual" refers to the traditional method of obtaining SF fanzines without sullying oneself with cash. Generally this includes trading other zines, writing locs, contributing articles or art, or being recipient of a whim. These days $1 is often accepted as the equivalent to these more active approaches.

•I'd appreciate it if you'd mention **FACTSHEET FIVE** when ordering zines you saw reviewed here. It helps us all in the long run, as the more credibility I build up the more fine zines I'll be able to bring to your attention.

•If you have any problems with a zine please let me know. I'll be happy to contact publishers in cases of non-receipt. 99% of the time it's just a case of things being lost in the mail. If you are writing to complain, it is imperative to include all the details: what you ordered, when, what form of payment and how much you sent, as well as what you've done to follow up yourself.

•If you have time, any zine publisher enjoys hearing comments on the zine he has sent you. This is especially true if you didn't like it; we all like to improve. Even a simple note of thanks can make a publisher's day, though.

•Many zine publishers print small quantities, so you may not be able to get the exact issue that I reviewed. If you must have that particular issue, say so, and be prepared to pay extra. Otherwise it's best just to request the most recent or the next issue and save trouble for everyone. And be patient; if the current issue is all gone, it may take a while.

•And since it may take a while, the envelope your order came in may get lost. Make sure your address is on the letter itself! Otherwise you may not get your copy despite the best intentions of the publisher.

•Most zine publishers are willing to exchange their zines for others, so I generally don't mention this in listings unless I know they *don't* swap. But use some discretion—a 150-page typeset music publication is unlikely to swap with a 4-page xeroxed newsletter on Central American farming. And remember, publishers are under no obligation to respond to unsolicited zines, so if you can't afford to give away the copy, don't send it.

•When an advertiser or publication indicates a price of, for example, $_{0}2^{00}$ or $_{0}5^{00}$, you should send that many Federal Reserve Notes ("dollar bills") in cash. Many people would say $2 or $5, but there are those who draw a strong distinction between authentic dollars and the evidence of the US debt issued by the Federal Reserve.

★★★★★

THOSE FUNNY NUMBERS

What the little stuff in parentheses after each zine review do is tell you how big the zine is. First comes a letter for the size of the paper, or at least close to it:

A3	A3 size, about 11 1/2 by 16 1/4
A4	A4 size, about 8 1/4 by 11 1/2
A5	A5 size, about 5 3/4 by 8 1/4
D	Digest, 5 1/2 by 8 1/2
HL	Half Legal, 7 by 8 1/2 or 4 1/4 by 14
HS	Half Standard, 4 1/4 by 11
L	Legal, 8 1/2 by 14
M	Mini, 4 1/4 by 5 1/2
MM	Micro, smaller than mini
O	Oversized, larger than tabloid or odd-sized
Q	Quarto, 8 by 10
S	Standard, 8 1/2 by 11
T	Tabloid, usually 11 by 17 on newsprint

Next comes a number, which is the number of pages. Last there may be a suffix: "t" for typeset or laser-printed, or "r" for photo-reduced or small type.

Also, at the front of reviews of zines being listed for the first time you will find the symbol □ .

ADVERTISING

FACTSHEET FIVE advertising space is available as follows:

Full Page	7 1/2 by 9 3/4
Half Page	7 1/2 by 4 3/4
Half Page	3 3/4 by 9 3/4
Quarter Page	3 3/4 by 4 3/4
Eighth Page	3 3/4 by 2 1/4
Twelfth Page	2 1/4 by 2

Copy should be submitted as camera-ready, in the size it is to run. For sizes not on the list, please call me. *Please note: a standard business card is an eighth-page ad*. Current rates are as follows:

Back Cover with Second Color	$190.00
Full Page with Second Color	$170.00
Full Page	$145.00
Half Page	$80.00
Quarter Page	$50.00
Eighth Page	$25.00
Twelfth Page	$12.50

Ads which are paid in advance for two or more insertions may take a 20% discount from the above prices—and are protected from price rises during the life of the ad. This discount does not apply to twelfth page ads. This discount also does not apply to ads with a second color.

Ad space needing a second color, either back cover or interior, should be reserved with me before sending in copy, as this space is obviously limited. Other ads need not reserve space in advance, though you're welcome to do so. Generally, I do not trade advertising with other publishers, though I make *rare* exceptions for those with a large circulation in areas that I don't ordinarily reach.

Classified ads are now available for 25¢ per word, minimum 20 words, maximum 500 words.

Next ad deadline is September 15, 1990.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

•Aardvark Farms and all the little aardvarks have moved to Box 499, Rt. 52, Holmes, NY 12531.

•A Distribution has relocated to 339 Lafayette St. #202, New York, NY 10012.

•**ALPHA BEAT SOUP** and Dave Christy are stirred up at 68 Winter Ave., Scarborough, ONT,. M1K 4M3, CANADA

•**AMERICAN INDIAN DEFENSE NEWS** has moved to PO Box 3121, Hutchinson, KS 67501.

•**ARTPOLICE** and Frank Gaard may now be reached at 5228 43 Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN 55417.

•Jake Berry and all his various projects now reside in PO Box 3112, Florence, AZ 35630.

•**BOILED ANGEL** and Michael C. Diana are cooking out at PO Box 5254, Largo, FL 34649-5254.

•**CONGREGATIONAL BIBLE REVIVAL NEWS** is newly at PI Box 265, Hutchinson, KS 67501.

•**COOKED** and Todd Kristel are baking in Box 479, 3650 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, PA 19104.

•Denise Dee has moved again and is now at 636 Hyde, San Francisco, CA 94109.

•**DIALOGUE** may be heard at PO Box 71221, New Orleans, LA 70172.

•**DIFFERENT DRUMMER** and Erin Hooper moved again, fetching up at 3331 Quartz Ln. #D-4, Fullerton, CA 92631.

•Geoff Dugan is now at 51 MacDougal St. #28, New York, NY 10012.

•**DUMPSTER TIMES** and Wand Duck are at PO Box 80044, Akron, OH 44308.

•**ECSTASY PROD'S** is now at Box 12847A Beckett St., Melbourne 3000, AUSTRALIA.

•**FAR CORNER** and Obscure Research Labs are lurking in PO Box 15266, Santa Rosa, CA 95402.

•**FREEDOM NETWORK NEWS** and the International Society for Individual Liberty have moved to 1800 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94102.

•**GAMMON GAMMON** and Jon Lewis are at 1802 NE 55th, Seattle, WA 98105.

•**GAPress** and Greg Evason have moved to 275 Woolwich St., Basement, Guelph, ONT, N1H 3V8, CANADA):

•**KANDYKORN JACKHAMMER** has bounced over to PO Box 1964, Ventura, CA 93002.

•**LUCID** and Dale Adams may be seen at 2929 Routier Rd. #265, Sacramento, CA 95827-1979.

•**MONSTERS & MOVIES** and Peripheral Press have been seen at 5300 Ehret Rd., Marrero, LA 70072.

•**Mystery Fez Records** has moved to 14 Orient Rd., Mastic Beach, NY 11951.

•R.J. Neubauer has moved to 3963 North Creek Rd., Pal

•**NEW FORCES** is newly installed at 6505 E. Central #176, Wichita, KS 67206

•**NO OTHER WAY** may be found nowhere other than PO Box 5072, Sacramento, CA 95817.

•**NOVOID** and the other activities of Colin Hinz may be located at 208 Laclie St., Orillia, ONT, L3V 4N6, CANADA.

•Obscure Research Labs are hiding out in PO Box 15266, Santa Rosa, CA 95401.

•**PERIPHERAL VISIONS** and Rob Sommers may be seen at 926-C Waverly Way NE, Atlanta, GA 30307-2551.

•**PYROTECHNICS** has blown off to PO Box 965, Aurora, IL 60507-0965.

•**RESISTANT HARMONY** has changed its address to GPO Box 3222, Melbourne, Victoria 3001, AUSTRALIA.

•**RURAL NETWORK ADVOCATE** is at 6236 Borden Rd., Boscobel, WI 53805.

•**SEX & DRUGS** and A Non_Prophet Organization are now at 396 7th St. #2, Jersey City, NJ 07302.

•**SHOTS** and Dan Price may now be seen at PO Box 109, Joseph, OR 97846.

•**SIPAPU** and Noel Peattie have been renumbered to 23311 County Road 88, Winters, CA 95694.

•**SLUG & LETTUCE** has crawled off to PO Box 2067, Peter Stuyvesant Sta., New York, NY 10009-8914.

•**SPECTRUM** and Roger Windsor may be seen at 61 Dutile Rd., Laconia, NH 03246.

•**STILL NO SYMPTOMS** and Liz Colker are now recuperating at 428-A Cole St., San Francisco, CA 94117.

•**TABOULI** and **ORDURE** may now be located at PO Box 1155, Plaistow, NH 03865.

•**TOO MUCH PRESSURE** has pushed its way off to 1638 'E' St. #302, Hayward, CA 94541.

•**Tray Full of Lab Mice Publications** and Matt & Melissa Jasper have relocated to 106 D Bernard St., Chapel Hill, NC 27514.

•**A VERY SMALL MAGAZINE**

•**VIRGIN MEAT** and Steve Blum are freshly at 2325 West Ave. K-15, Lancaster, CA 93536.

Remember, since it costs me 30¢ just to get your COA if the Post Office tells me, and remailing your FF would cost me the price of another copy plus first class postage (they don't return whole issues, just covers), I'm not inclined to send you a replacement when this happens. If you want to keep your collection complete, send me your Change of Address as soon as you know it!

LOST ADDRESSES

Anybody got a current address for any of these?

•**2 MUCH PRESSURE**

•**CORSAIR IMPACT**

•**EGG**

•**PUNX**

•**PYLON**

•**STORY COMIX**

•Erinn Wright or Yon & Pete (vanished subscribers to **BREAKFAST WITHOUT MEAT**)

By the way, if you've had any correspondents go missing lately, feel free to send their names to be added to this listing.

DEAD ZINES

All of the following have ceased publication in the last few months:

•**ABC NO RIO MAGAZINE** isn't precisely dead, but is "on ice for a spell" due to lapsed copying privileges.

•**BAY BLUES**

•**BITCH** is on vacation due to the sudden illness of its publisher, and will recover when she does. Watch these pages for the next issue.

•**BULLSHIT MONTHLY**

•**THE CANADIAN WRESTLING REPORT**

•**CHAIRS MISSING** (no, really)

•**DAILY IMPULSE/POINT-BLANK**

•**EROSPIRIT**

- **FRISKY MUTANT DISCO BALLS** (Suspending publication for 6 months; mail will be answered on return).
- **PANIC**
- **THE REPEAL OF DECORUM**
- **RETRO ROCK**
- **SOCIAL VOMIT**
- **SONUS** (Sonus Productions remains in business)
- **SOUNDS OF SUBURBIA** (to be replaced by **CORPORATE STATE**)
- **TWO-FISTED FUCK BEAST**

ERRATA

•I found it (well, actually, a couple of people sent it to me): the address for **Archives Szukalski**, the people who keep the remarkable crank works of Stanislav Szukalski in print, is PO Box 923308, Sylmar, CA 91392. Speaking of which, the Archives themself sent an announcement for **BEHOLD!!! THE PROTONG**, a 96-page sampling of Szukalski's work, available for $21.95

•The correct price for the Artware catalog is $4 postpaid to the USA. Also you should be sure to include Uwe Hamm-Furrholter's name on the envelope when you write.

•**BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY** is $2 by mail, not $1 as listed.

•The prices for the Japanese videotapes offered by Mykel Board were given incorrectly. The selection of commercials is $15 via surface or $22.50 via air mail; the Japanaimation light porno videos are $20 surface, $30 air. If you don't mind slightly lower quality recordings, you can get all the stuff on one tape at the SLP speed for $25. Contact Mykel at 3-4774-153 Sobudai, Zama-shi, Kanagawa 228, JAPAN.

•In last issue's review of **CATHARSIS** the second occurrence of the word "photography" should have read "basketball".

•The correct address for **THE COVENTRY READER** is PO Box 18418, Cleveland Heights, OH 44118.

•The Drew Blood press chapbooks by Maria Dimaci and Mike Cluff reviewed in last issue are $2 each, not $1 as listed. Also, their book on the Germs is now out of print.

•All zines and chapbooks published by Jesus Freaks Ink. (2795 Via Vela, Camarillo, CA 93010) are free.

•Prices for Richard Kostelanetz's work reviewed in the last issue were inadvertently omitted. The art book **ASSEMBLING ASSEMBLING** is $5 and the videotape **VIDEO WRITING** is $75 on VHS or $150 on 3/4" tape. The address remains RK Editions, PO Box 73, Canal St. Sta., New York, NY 11202—you can also get a complete price list from the same address for an SASE.

•In my review of Cindy Smith's "Out West" cassette, I referred to Chuck Shepherd as publisher of the newspaper **OUT WEST**. Of course, it is Chuck Woodbury who actually publishes **OUT WEST**; Chuck Shepherd publishes **NEWS OF THE WEIRD**.

•The proper address for the PVC PRECINCT cassette released by LOWLIFE is PO Box 8213, Atlanta, GA 30306.

•Our review of the **RAMPAGING WOMEN** video in the previous issue implied that they had pirated part of the contents. This is not correct, and we apologize for the error.

•The price for **SAGEWOMAN** is $5.95 postpaid.

•The correct address for **SCHMUTZ** is 1211 Ditmas Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11218.

HALL OF SHAME

I have unresolved complaints of non-delivery about the following zines. Write for them at your own risk.

•**CROW**, Bill-Dale Marcinko, Wharton, NJ.

•Ray Ram is a person, not a publisher, but he owes me ten bucks and has moved without forwarding address and perhaps seeing his name here will shame him into coughing it up.

•**TEMPLE OF SCHLOCK**.

•**TRUE CRIME TRADING CARDS**

T-SHIRTS

•**AZTEC.AZCAN."B"** is the somewhat curious title of a new shirt available from Eric Knisley, 107-H W. Main, Carrboro, NC 27510). I wish I could reproduce it, with beautiful four-color printing, here. It features a pair of Central American carvings (one each, front and back) over psychedelic op-art backgrounds that almost require sunglasses to look at, and a lovely enigma it is. $12 postpaid in full-color on a white 100% cotton shirt.

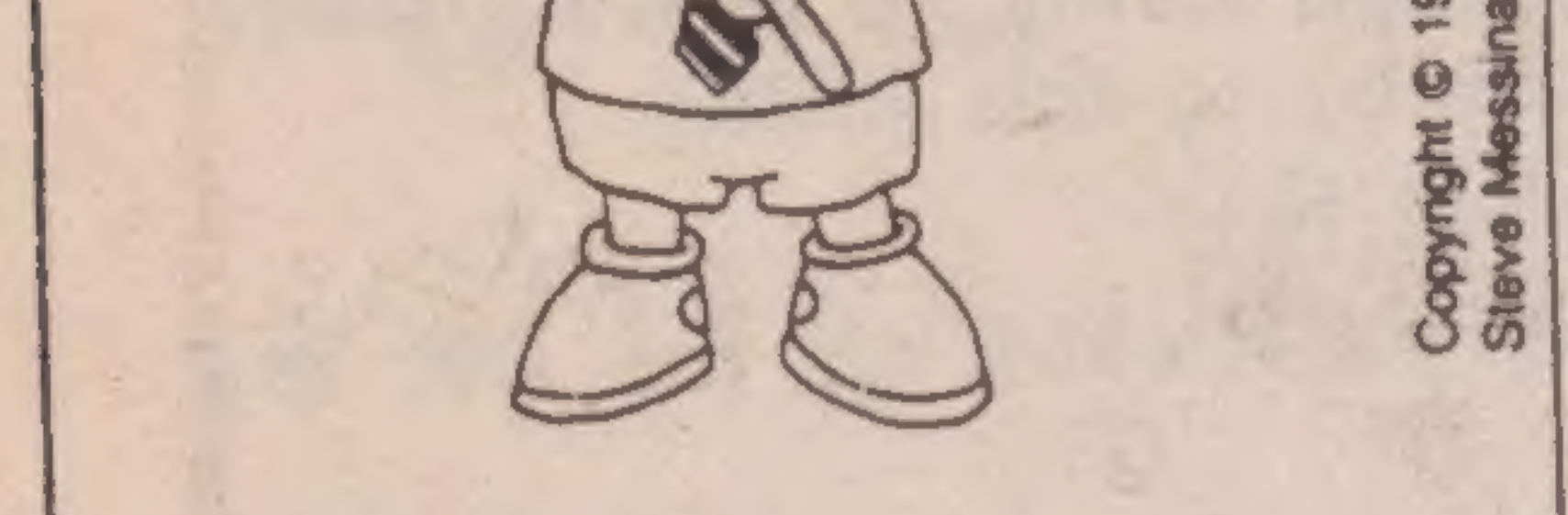
•**The Base Apes** shirt comes from Utsjen Recordings (c/o John Utsjen, PO Box 134, Waynesville, MO 65583). It features the band name and a picture of a slightly sneering ape with an earring—he looks like a refugee from some *Planet of the Apes* sequel. The shirt also notes "Banned by Waynesville High", though whether it's the shirt or the music that got banned I don't know. It's $9 in sizes from M to XL, and it's black ink on a white 50/50 shirt.

•**The Baseball Bat Man** shirt is one of the cleverest ideas I've seen in a long time. It's a black shirt with a big yellow oval on the front with the silhouette of a baseball bat cut out of the oval. (Think about it...remember the big movie released a while back?) They're $11.95 on a 100% cotton shirt from Tesch Designs, 1424 S. 20th St., Milwaukee, WI 53204.

•**Blue Highway** is a shirt for the classic traveler. It features the Route 66 sign, in black and white with a red border, on the front, and the script "Blue Highway" in blue on the back. $10 on an all-cotton shirt from PO Box 882724, San Diego, CA 92108.

•**Eric Knisley** (107-H W. Main St., Carrboro, NC 27510) sent a very distinctive shirt, a five-color process print in neon colors on a white all-cotton shirt. It features a collage of Marilyn Monroe, Maidenform bras, quotes, sexpots, and who knows what else; you can read it as a feminist statement of sorts. $12 in L or XL only.

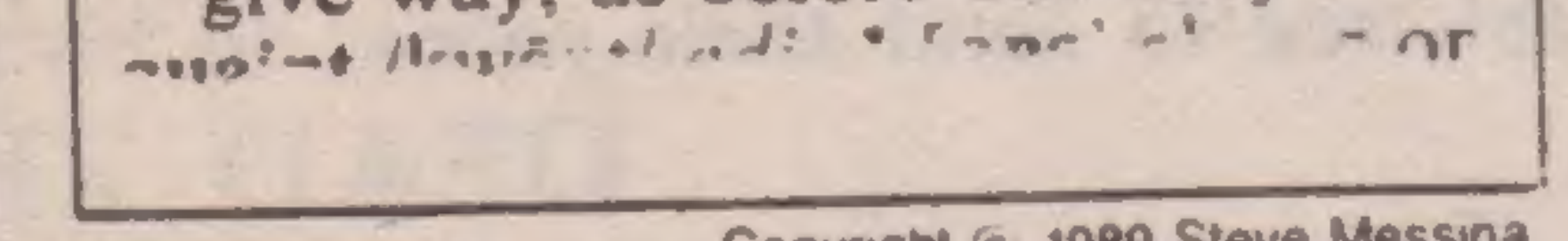
•**Krusty The Clown** and **Smilin' Joe Fission** are two of the "Simpsons Shirts You Can't Get at the Mall" available from Custom Screenprinting (PO Box 17863, Denver, CO 80217). They feature grinning line art (their ad presents this better than I can describe it) and are in black on a white all-cotton shirt. $10 each. The Joe Fission character, with his atomic body, seems peculiarly suited to the 1950's mindset that threatens to overwhelm American anew at any moment.


DAN QUAYLE:
UNDERACHIEVER
AND PROUD OF IT, MAN!
Copyright © 1990 Steve Messina and Barry Deutsch

4-color on white
100% cotton T-shirt
Available in M-L-XL
$11.95 postpaid
(N.Y. residents add sales tax)

REVENGE & GUILT
DEPT. FF/UN
PLANETARIUM STATION,
BOX 447
NEW YORK NY 10024-0447
(specify "Underachiever" shirt and size)
DEALER INQUIRIES WELCOME

Not authorized or sponsored by Matt Groening, Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation or Gracie Films



bush /boosh/ *adj.* [SLANG] amateurish, unsophisticated, cheap, slipshod, graceless, nonprofessional, tactless, gauche

ayle
quail /kwāl/ *vi.* to cower; to draw back or recoil in fear; to lose heart; to shrink away from; to dread; to have the spirits sink or give way, as before difficulty

Copyright © 1989 Steve Messina

Black on white
100% cotton T-shirt
Available in M-L-XL
$10.95 postpaid
(N.Y. residents add sales tax)

REVENGE & GUILT
DEPT. FF/BQ
PLANETARIUM STATION,
BOX 447
NEW YORK NY 10024-0447
(specify "Bush/Quayle" shirt and size)
POSTCARDS ALSO AVAILABLE:
50 CENTS EACH, $3.00/DOZEN
DEALER INQUIRIES WELCOME

SWAMP SHIRTS
Write for Info:
1700 Burton #119
Austin, TX 78741

•**A Nightmare on Bush Street** is one of the wonderful shirts from Ace Backwords (1630 University Ave. #26, Berkeley, CA 94703). It's puff printed (that means the ink is heavy enough to be raised up above the shirt), black on white, featuring George Bush ranting about his plans for the rich to get richer and the poor to get poorer. $10 postpaid on a white 50-50 shirt.

•**Night of the Living Dead** shirts are available from Fantaco (21 Central Ave., Albany, NY 12210) for $14.99plus $4 shipping. They're in white and green with the title and a penetrating stare on a black 50-50 shirt. Note that these are officially licensed, and available in M,L or XL only.

•**The Power Plagues** (Bob Z., c/o Sarris Bookmarketing, 125 E. 23rd St. #300, New York, NY 10010) have their official "Jesus Is Coming Soon" tour shirt out. Featuring Our Savior with his organ hanging out the bottom of a pair of shorts, this is probably not a shirt you can wear in public. But if you want one, you can get it for $10 in L or XL. White ink on a black 50/50 shirt.

•**Refuse & Resist!** (305 Madison Ave. #1166, New York, NY 10165) has shirts featuring the Keith Haring logo for their Resist in Concert event from a while back. On the front it has the three-color graphic of a clenched fist walking away in a broken manacle; the back has an excerpt from the Refuse & Resist statement. On a white all-cotton shirt, for $13.50 postpaid, in L and XL.

•**Revenge & Guilt** sent me a copy of their "Bush/Quayle" t-shirt, which features a pair of dictionary excerpts. The first one defines bush in the sense of "bush league", while the second one looks at the meaning of quail as "to cower". Black ink on a white 100% cotton shirt, $10.95 from Revenge & Guilt, Dept. FF/BQ, Planetarium Station, PO Box 447, New York, NY 10024-0447. Also available for $11.95 is the "Dan Quayle "Underachiever and proud of it, man" shirt. This one features our veep with goggle eyes and a hockey stick, and is printed in four colors on a white all-cotton shirt. Pretty funny, and not sued out of existence yet.

•**The Sheep Of Things to Come** (£7 from Maxim Décharné, Flat 22, Gunnersbury Court, Bollo Lane, Acton, London W3 8JL, ENGLAND) is a reproduction of the cover from maxim's hilarious chapbook of the same name, featuring a large glaring sun, a castle, a tree and several sheep. It comes in black ink on a large50/50 shirt, only. I am quite pleased to have received this and will definitely be confusing people with it this summer.

•**Skuzz Butts** shirts feature the lead characters from the comic of the same name, which is also reviewed in this issue. A couple of demented looking crotchety guys, in black ink on a yellow 50-50 shirt, can be yours for only $5 from Jeff Gillette, c/o Nullification Presentations, 1998 Huntington, Grosse Pte Woods, MI 48236.

•**SOMA** shirts are $7 including the latest issue of **SOMA** magazine (see the Zine reviews). They're screened in multiple variable colors and feature the face from the "Frugivorous Apes" cover of the current issue. The back features a physics joke based on the space-time continuum, which I for one found to be pretty funny. The shirts are all-cotton and imported from Pakistan, of all places. Checks to Thomas Peake can be sent to GA Tech Box 35526, Atlanta, GA 30332.

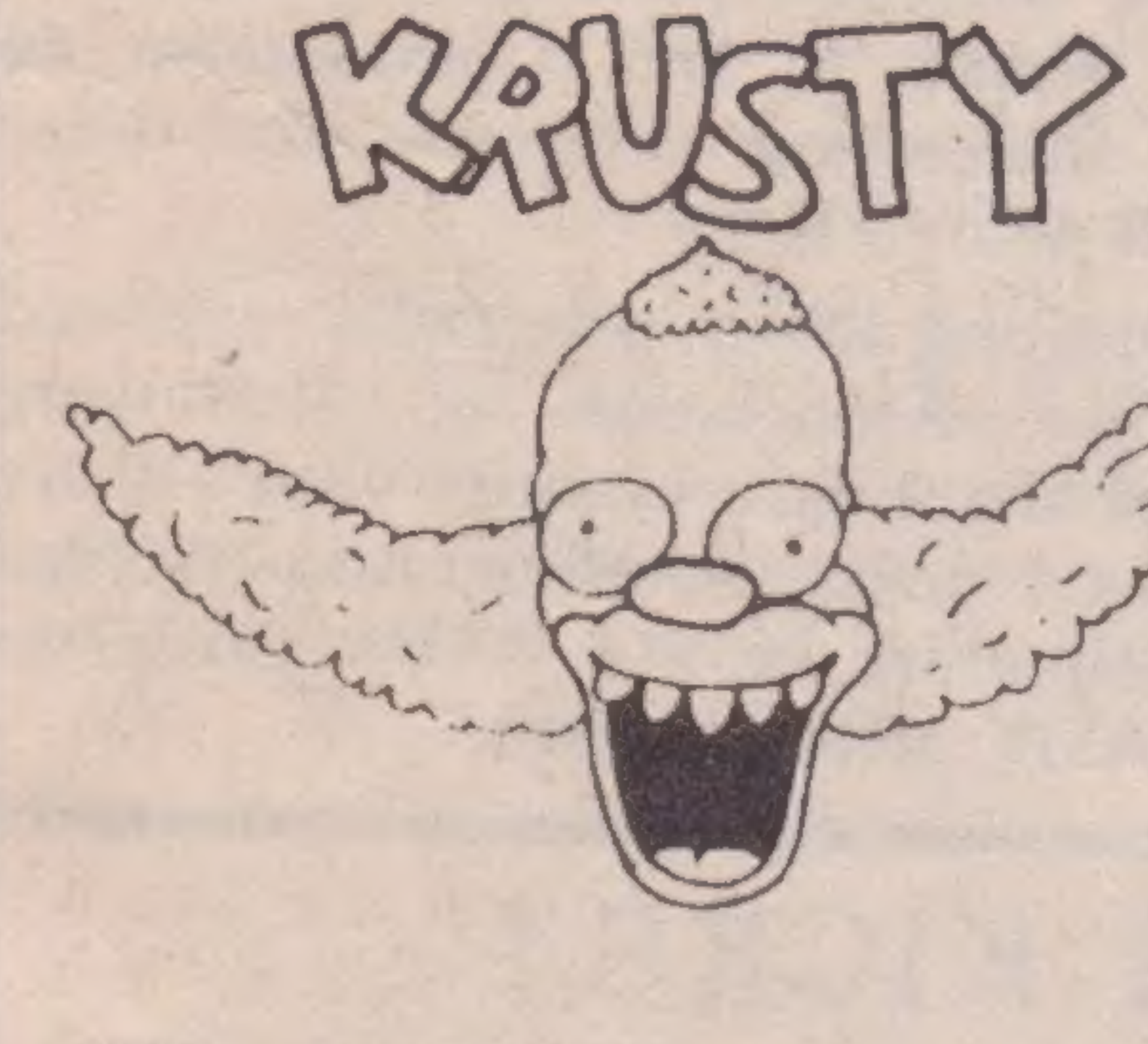
•**The T-Shirt of the Month Club** has returned after a short break! Freddie Baer is once again committed to furnishing a different one of her collage t-shirts each month. (If you got **FACTSHEET FIVE** #36, Freddie did all the column headings). In late June I received the first new one, with flowers and some rather dissipated folks in front of a detail of what looks like a cathedral. The shirts are 100% cotton, and the minimum subscription is $24 for 3 months.

•**The UB Rugby Alumni** come from the University of Buffalo and have their own t-shirts. The 3-color front caption is "Alumni/U.B. RUGBY/The Ignaroids" and the back shows a rather brutish rugby player surrounded by "We Don't Think...Therefore We're Not" in black and 3 more colors. They're $10 in L or XL, from Ray Zamboni at 31 W. Northrup Pl., Buffalo, NY 14214, and the shirts are a white 50-50 mix.

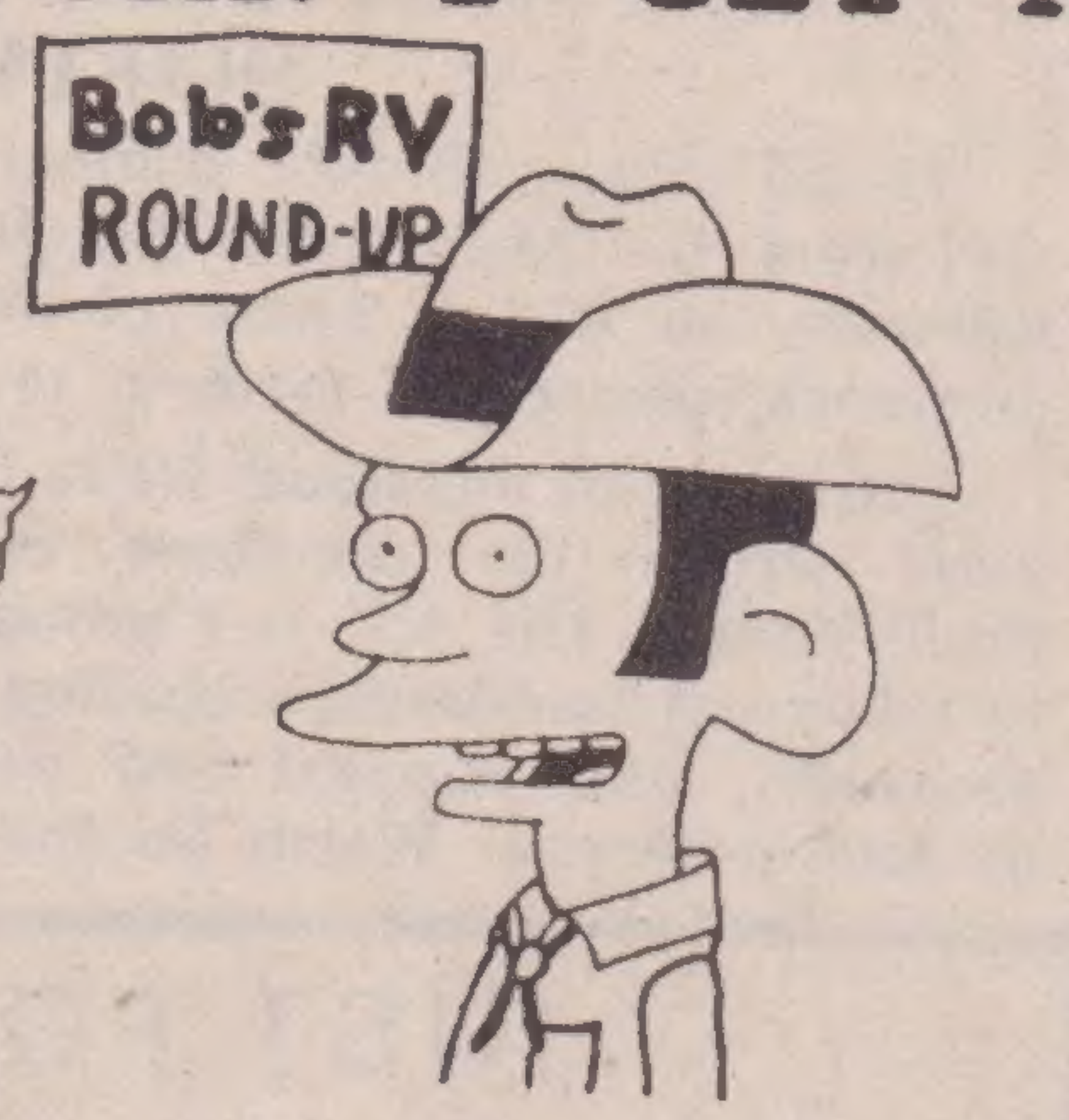
•**Underground Graphix** (PO Box 45178, Kansas City, MO 64111) has a wide vareity of shirts available for $12 each on 100% cotton or $10 on a 50/50 blend. The one they sent me is black ink on a white shirt, showing a guy sitting naked in a corner and pulling

The Simpsons

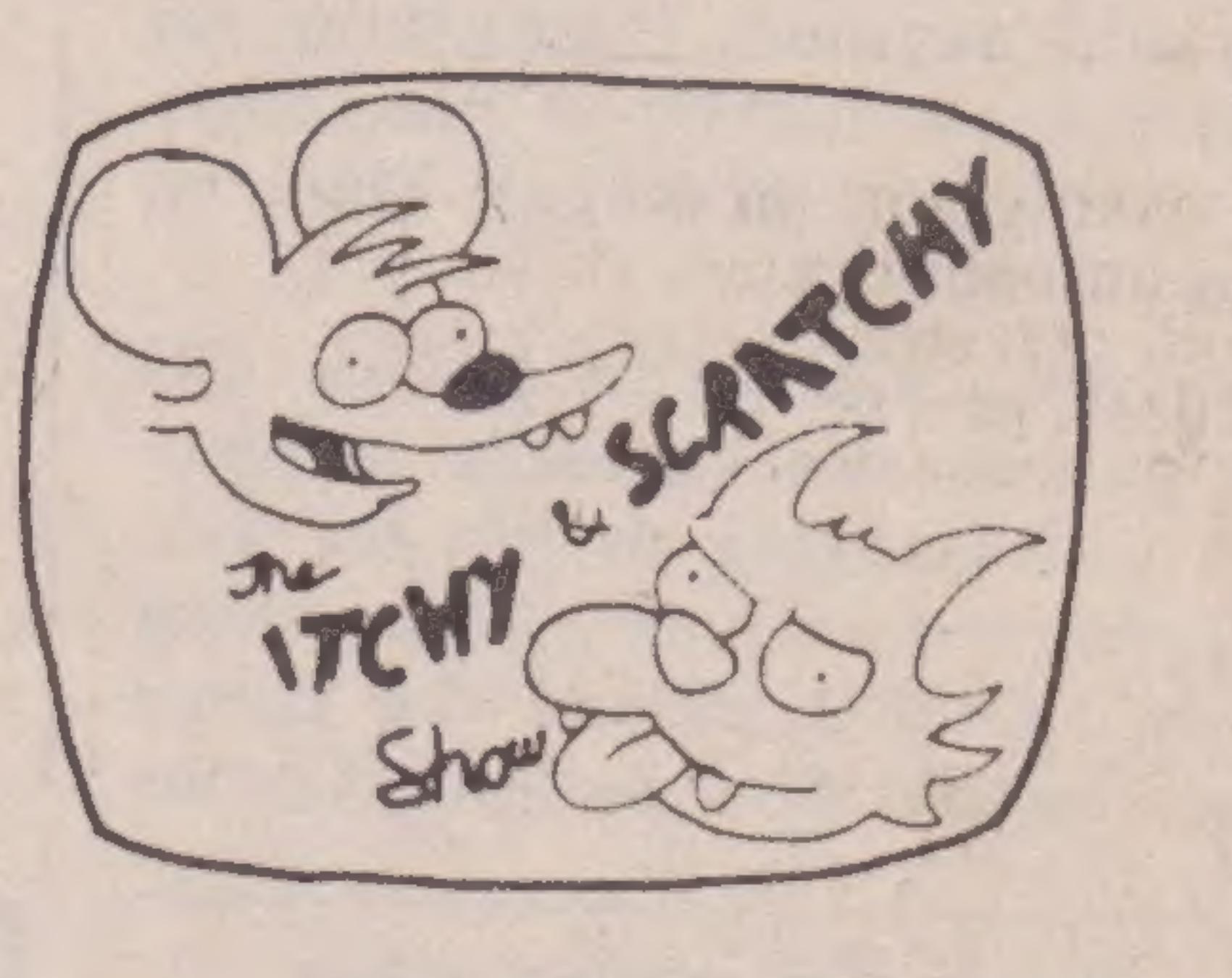
SHIRTS YOU CAN'T GET AT THE MALL



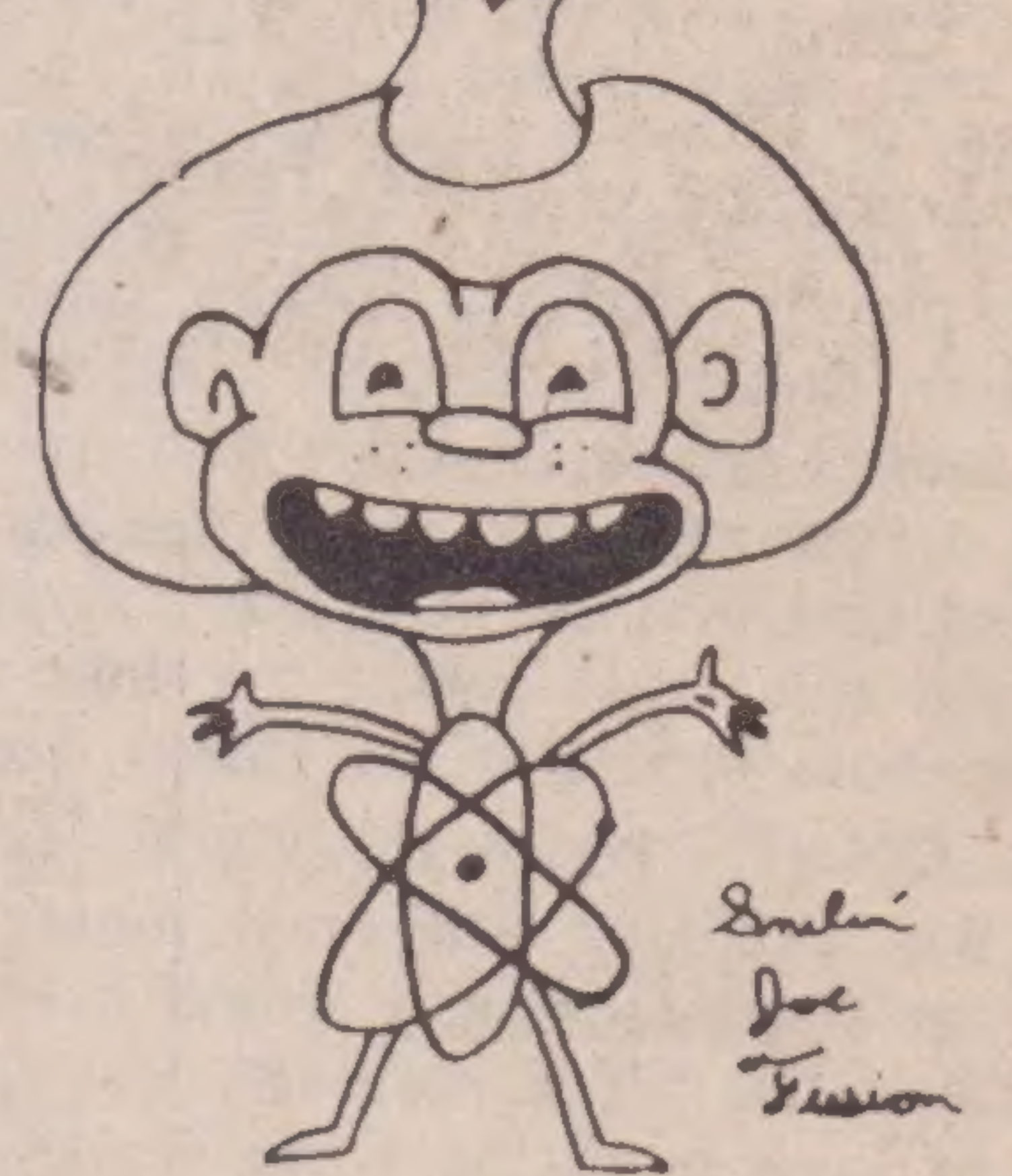
NS1 KRUSTY THE CLOWN



NS2 BOB



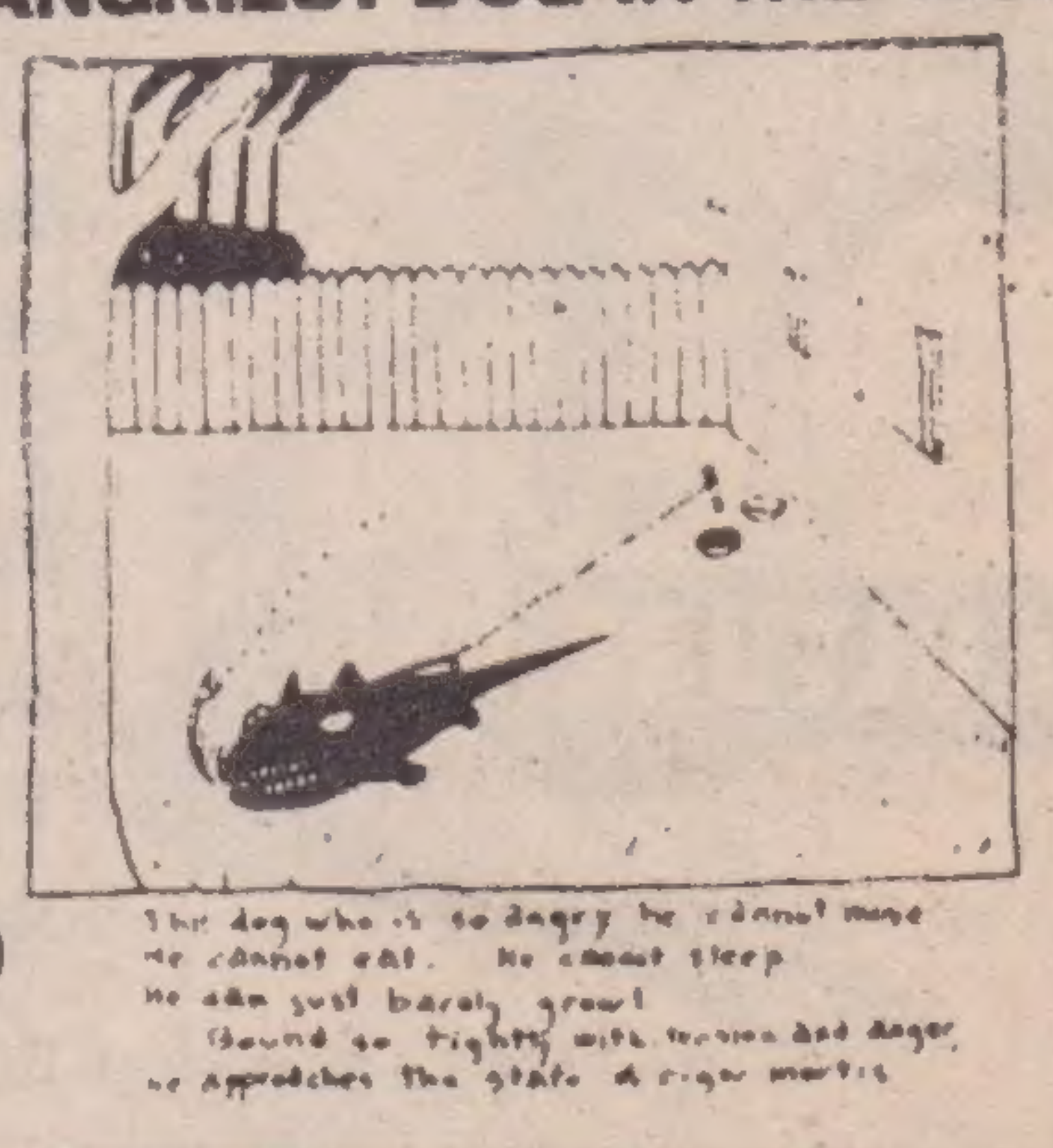
NS3 ITCHY & SCRATCHY



NS4

SMILIN' JOE FISSION

ALSO: THE ANGRIEST DOG IN THE WORLD


The dog who is so angry he cannot move
He cannot eat. He cannot sleep
He can just barely growl
Bound so tightly with tension and anger,
He approaches the state of rigor mortis

NS5
THE ANGRIEST DOG
IN THE WORLD
(BLACK ON WHITE)
$10.00

$10.00 BLACK ON WHITE
$12.00 WHITE ON BLACK

ALL SHIRTS 100% COTTON
ALL PRICES POSTAGE PAID

Be sure to specify L or XL
Make checks payable to: Custom Screenprinting
P.O.Box 17863
Denver, CO 80217
Allow no more than three weeks for delivery.

his skin off to reveal a wrinkled armor and fangs underneath. Disturbingly alien stuff.

•**The Warlock Pinchers** (PO Box 17863, Denver, CO 80217) sent me their "The Almighty Goatee Woatee" shirt, with one of the most bizarre and friendly Satanic emblems ever on the front surrounded by the band name. You can get yours, in black ink on a white all cotton shirt, for only $7. Or if you write, they'll send you their catalog of shirts, hats, and other Warlock Pinchers merchandise for free.

GAMES

•**DIE CONSERVATIVE DIE** (50¢ from Secretspy, Glacier 43, SOSC, Ashland, OR 97520): This one is as much joke as role-playing game, al though with the right players and referee it could work out well. The basic premise is that the players are liberal-radical types, armed to the teeth, and their opponents are a bunch of goosestepping, pro-life, Marine-loving redneck conservatives. The rules cover the basics of combat and give a sample adventure scenario. (S-6)

ARTIFACTS

•**86** is the only symbol embossed on a curious red drum button available from Skip Stone (First SubGenius Apostolic Church, PO Box 8622, Salem, MA 01971). I have no idea what it means, but the plastic pin, red with gold highlights, is certainly different You can get one for free by sending Skip a letter and an SASE.

•**Absolutely Perfect Productions** (729 5th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94118) sent along another handful of their lovely vinyl badges, a shiny alternative to the usual mass-produced metal buttons. Two of this batch were people: the Pope from the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence ($3) and a young "The King" with red eyes and purple glitter for decor. The others are a pair of circular slogans: "Slime" on a happy face and "there are a lot more of us than you think" ($2 each). Add 35¢ per badge for shipping. They do dinosaurs and custom work too.

•**The Galley Boat** comes from George Cameron (144586X cell 6-7, West Jefferson Correctional Facility, 100 Warrior Ln, Bessemer, AL 35023). George is doing life without parole and has a lot of time on his hands to handcraft gift items from small strips of wood. The boat he sent me is about 21" from end to end and 18" high (the hull is about 12" long) and sells for $30.00. It has hand-tied string rigging and posterboard sails; for an extra $5 he will make one up with cloth sales. It's a truly impressive piece of work, and I'm proud to have it sitting out on a shelf. George can also make other wooden models: pianos, fiddles, jewelry boxes, and pool tables—I get the impression that he would be quite willing to discuss special orders. Every item is made to order and unique. If you're interested, drop George a line and ask about pricing and payment instructions for the items that interest you (*don't* send money directly to him; there are prison rules that get in the way of this sort of thing). Much of what he does would make rather unique gifts.

•**SALON** (Pat Hartman, 305 W. Magnolia #386, Fort Collins, CO 80521) has available little cast metal buffalo skulls, available plain for $10 or mounted on a shield as a wall hanging or pin for $15. I got one of the "Elk Dreamer" design, painted with an elk "beaming waves of love medicine from his eyes". Others include the Ghost Dance, Crazy Horse, Bear Society and Thunder Bird designs. Comes with feathered and beaded earrings as well. Certainly a very unique item.

MICROFICHE

Anarchism on Microfiche

All the titles below are microfiche reprints of texts available from Richard Gaska, 2024 N. Manor Drive, Erie, PA 16505. Each title comes on diazo fiche (either on two or three fiche). Microfiche is one of the most accessible microforms available (and is my favorite after the ill-fated micro-opaques) because it doesn't come on a difficult and time-consuming roll. It is the form best suited for the reproduction of small pamphlets and is easy to carry around (the pocketbook of micro-graphics). These fiche are negative in polarity, which causes a little eye strain and is a bit annoying, and the reproduction looks quick and dirty and doesn't always pick up the small print very well. The targets identifying the titles are handwritten and give little added information at all. But all of this lends the fiche the aura of underground political tracts, which is very appropriate.

Paddington Bear, **ONCE UPON THE TIME THERE WAS A PLACE CALLED NOTTING HILL GATE.** The author of this title is, no doubt, apocryphal. These fiche present "a critical history of the Notting Hill Carnival, Notting Hill Gate as a whole, and beyond." Also called North Kensington, The Gate is a section of London that has traditionally been the neighborhood for immigrants, artistic bohemians and Libertarianism. This is a personal account of Paddington Bear's experience in The Gate over the past 20 years, with special attention paid to the 1987 riot. (3 microfiche)

FIGHTERS FOR ANARCHISM ($2.50): The title contains essays by and about Mollie Steimer and Simon Fleshing, who were participants in anarchist movements in the U.S. and Russia in the 1920's and who died in Mexico in the early 1980's. (2 microfiche)

LIKE A SUMMER WITH A THOUSAND JULY'S ($3): This tract rails against the widely held belief that the UK is a bastion of liberalism. It discusses class struggle in the U.K. and modern youth riots in that culture of rioting. (2 microfiche)

RATIONALIST AND HUMANIST: E.B. FOOTE ($3): This title is a reprint of a pamphlet, published in 1913, of biographical notes and appreciations of Dr. E. B. Foote, a medical doctor interested in libertarianism and the pure ideal of intellectual freedom. Dr. Foote switched from a Unitarian to an agnostic in the late 1800's and published **DR. FOOTE'S HEALTH MONTHLY.** Published at the end of this title is an issue of the **NEW ZEALAND RATIONALIST AND HUMANIST.** (2 microfiche)

(Microfiche reviews by Geof Huth)

SOFTWARE

•I will review IBM-PC compatible software personally, and have reviewers for MacIntosh, Amiga, Apple II and Commodore 64 software, so if you know of any interesting programs for these machines, please put them in touch with FF.

Starting with this issue, we're indicating which programs reviewed were written by members of the Association of Shareware Professionals. The ASP is a group of shareware authors who adhere to minimum standards, including good documentation, non-crippled programs, user support and participation in the ASP's problem-mediation service. Watch for the [ASP] after reviews.

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For more information on shareware, check out the book review of Rob Rosenberger's **SHAREWARE** in this issue of **FACTSHEET FIVE**.

•**AGOG AGO GO #2** ($8 *CASH* from Edward leonardo Jewasinski, 116 Eswyn Road, Tooting, London, SW17 8TN, UK): An on-disk magazine of surreal poetry and literature. It incorporates both text and PCX graphics, and is encapsulated in a search engine which allows hopping to any page quickly (though it is rather cumbersome for browsing). There is a poem here about an ant with delusions, a story featuring curious meats, and even some hidden pages which do not seem to be accessible via the index. As a bonus, the diskette also includes a shareware version of the "Disk Book Compiler" used to make the whole thing work, so you too can distribute your own text books. A well-done translation, taking advantage of both traditional forms and the possibilities of a new medium. (IBM)

•**Captain Comic** ($6 from PC-SIG, 1030-C E. Duane Ave. Dept. 2186, Sunnyvale, CA 94086; order #1450; also on **FF** BBS; registration $10-$20): Most shareware games are sort of blah. This is a happy exception. It's a challenging, intensely addictive (I wouldn't want to guess how many hours I've spent playing it, and I *still* can't get the damned lantern)[Postscript—3 weeks later—I've finally won, *once*!] arcade game, with beautiful EGA graphics—easily up to professional standards. Your character jumps around, zaps things, and ultimately (if you figure it all out) collects the three treasures and wins. There's more to this than simple-minded blasting, as it can take a long time to figure out how to get to where you want to go next. About all it lacks is the ability to save a game in progress, though it does pause so you can at least answer the phone. A great job, better than much commercial games software I've messed with. (IBM, requires EGA).

•**Cheque-It-Out** v. 1.1 (Shareware on **FF** BBS; registration $49.95 from Hooper International, PO Box 62219, Colorado Springs, CO 80962): There are a *lot* of double-entry accounting systems out there, and at this point I've tried quite a few of them. Cheque-It-Out is one that I keep coming back to. It's full-featured, easy to use, and does what I need for my personal accounting. That is, it will write checks (they even tell you where you can order checks to fit your printer, if you want), track my expenses, compare it to my budget, and help balance my checkbook. What makes it stand out, though, is the user interface. This makes extensive use of color and sound effects (the former can be customized, the latter disabled), supports a mouse, and works in an intuitive, pop-up fashion. There's context-sensitive help at the touch of a function key, which includes hypertext links to other help topics. It's fast and flexible, handling even my complex finances with ease. If you know something of double-entry bookkeeping (I wouldn't recommend this to a complete novice, although there is some basic information in the manual) and want to computerize your books, for either business or personal use, this is one of the first places you should look. I can hardly wait until I get three months of data loaded in and can start using the graphics to look back over my year. [ASP](IBM)

•**CMTS** Version 2 (Shareware on **FF** BBS; registration $129 from Torbert Data Systems, PO Box 9218, Chesapeake, VA 23321): The initials stand for Church Membership and Donation Tracking System, though actually with a bit of customization you could use this specialized database to track the finances of any membership organization which depends on member donations to fund specific projects. It's entirely menu-driven, and consists of three main modules. The Setup Module allows you to change the fund categories, important dates, and other defaults remembered by CMTS. The Membership Module maintains the member list, prints mailing labels, maintains an inventory of special skills, and so on. The Donation Module—password protected for higher security—is where you keep track of the incoming money, It maintains a full audit trail, does transaction inquiries by member or fund, and provides quarterly statements. The software is fast and intuitive, and any rough spots are smoothed over by extensive on-line help. The manual is clear on the simple setup procedure as well. I don't know how many **FF** readers are running churches, but those that are should look into this one. [ASP](IBM)

•**Easy Format** Version 3.10 (Shareware on **FF** BBS; registration $40 from Falk Data Systems, 5322 Rockwood Ct., El Paso, TX 79932): This is a program designed to replace the DOS "format" command. Why bother? Well, Easy Format is more flexible, more colorful, faster and more reliable (though there are tradeoffs, of course, between speed and reliability). The package actually includes three programs: EzFormat, which is menu-driven and very flexible, FormatF, which

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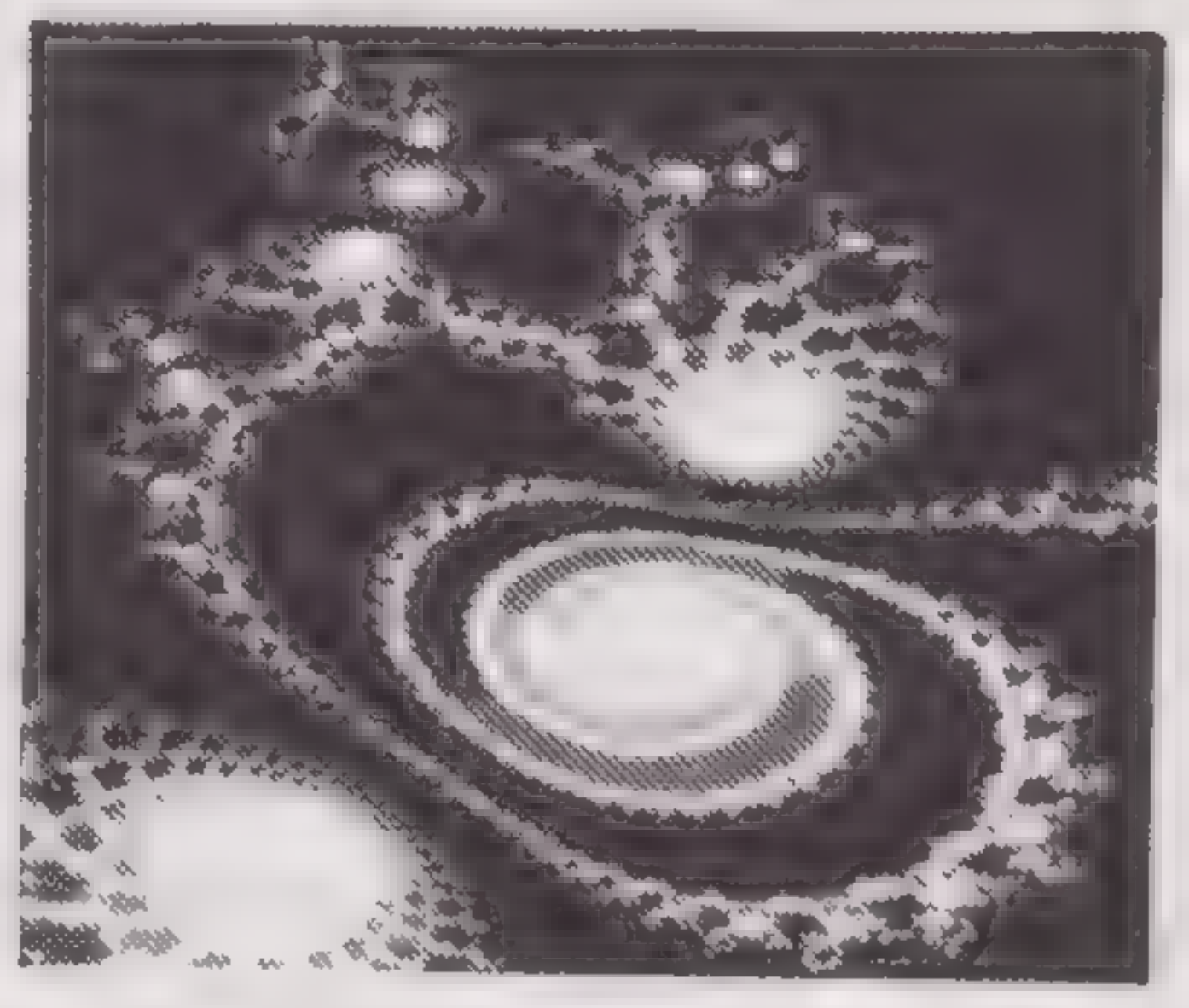
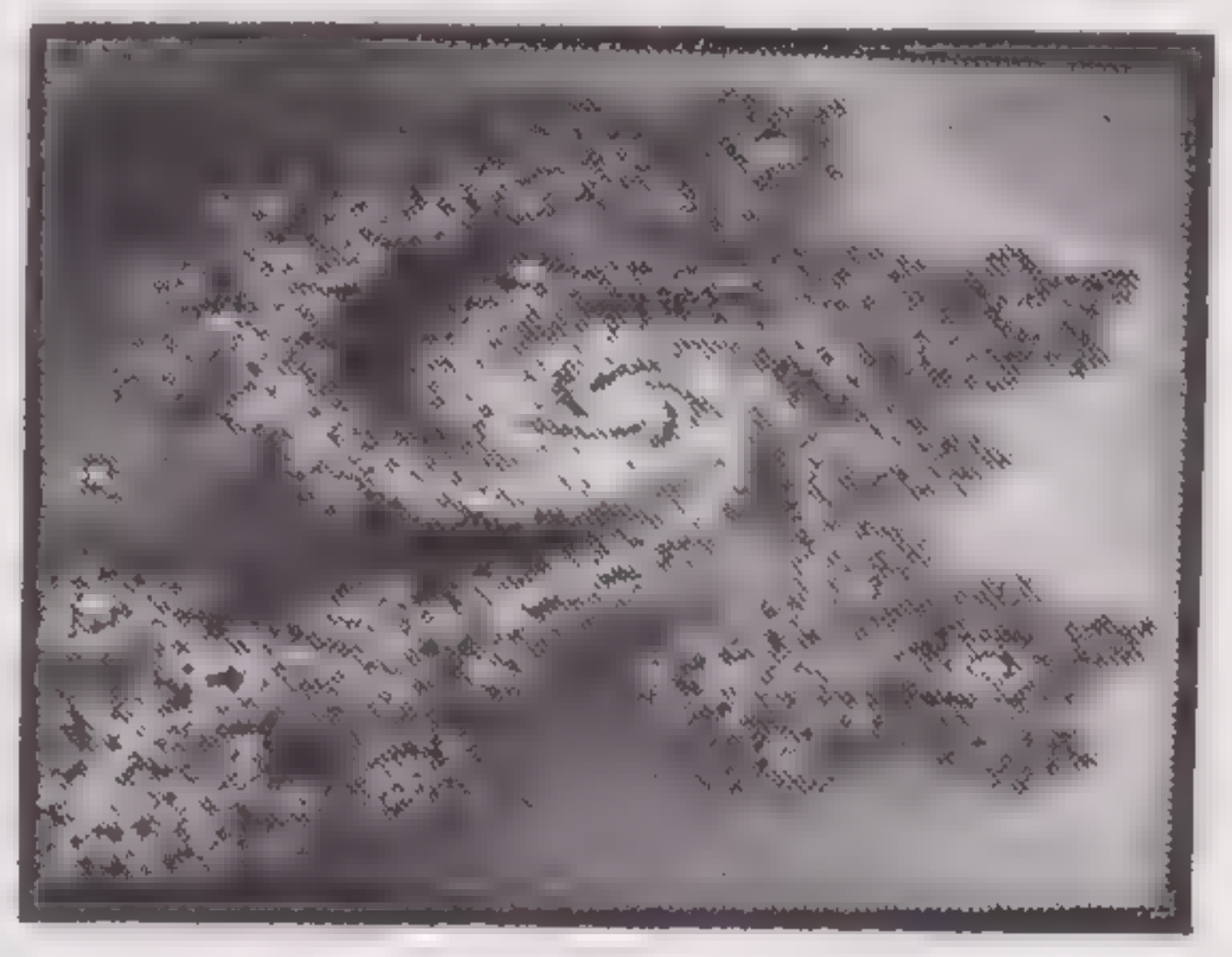
This **must** be MANDELBROT 3, the fractal program that the **New York Times** recommended on 11-8-88, as did **Jerry Pournelle** in the June, 1990 **Byte.**





In FS5 #36, **Mike Gunderloy** called MANDELBROT 3 "one of the best values in recreational software I've ever seen" and added that it "was the hit of the most recent FF party."

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is small and works from the command line, and DvFormat, a DesqView-aware version. Where they really shine is with marginal disks. I took a 1.2M diskette and physically scratched the surface (kids, don't try this at home!). DOS was only able to find space for 591,872 bytes of data, after making washing-machine noises for an interminably long time. FormatF was *much* faster, and gave me 1,123,840 bytes to work with. EzFormat, using the most conservative error-marking scheme, gave me 708,096—and I had no problems using the diskette. There are options galore, the ability to customize a boot-up message, support for all 4 popular drive sizes, and a well-written manual. The only minor problem I had was that EzFormat at first did not recognize my EGA color monitor, and it was easy to work around that. The registered version comes with a second disk that includes shareware copies of TAPCIS and FLU-SHOT, excellent programs in themselves. [ASP](IBM)

•**Find Duplicates** ($6 from PC-SIG, 1030-C E. Duane Ave. Dept. 2186, Sunnyvale, CA 94086[order #2029]; registration $10): This is a single-purpose program for hard disk users. It scans through all the files on your disk and then displays a list of ones which have identical names. You can then use fairly intuitive keys to list, print or delete any of these files to free up disk space. It's simple, colorful, useful and it works. I was less impressed with the other two programs on the disk. **COPYCON** is a very simple full-screen editor optimized for batch file design, with macros to insert shading and line-drawing characters as well as common words like "shift" and "echo". It's functional, but there are other shareware text editors that do more and do it better. **GBLINK** is designed to blank your screen after five minutes of inactivity, and it does this. However, it flunks by using Left Shift-C as a hot key to turn on an on-screen clock, making it very difficult to use your keyboard for word processing while it's loaded. (IBM)

•**MANDELBREW** ($16 from Charles Platt, PO Box 556, Chelsea Sta., New York, NY 10113): This is another program for displaying the Mandelbrot set which is a mixture of neat ideas and outdated standards. To its credit, it runs on most any IBM-compatible system, from the PCjr on up, with at least 128K of memory, one disk drive and a CGA monitor. Mandelbrew also features a very nice interactive way to set the colors in your final drawing, as well as the usual zoom, save and retrieve features. The source code (in BASIC) is also available, in case you'd like to do something about the speed or clunky display. It makes the most of old hardware, but on newer machines, many other programs outshine this one. (IBM)

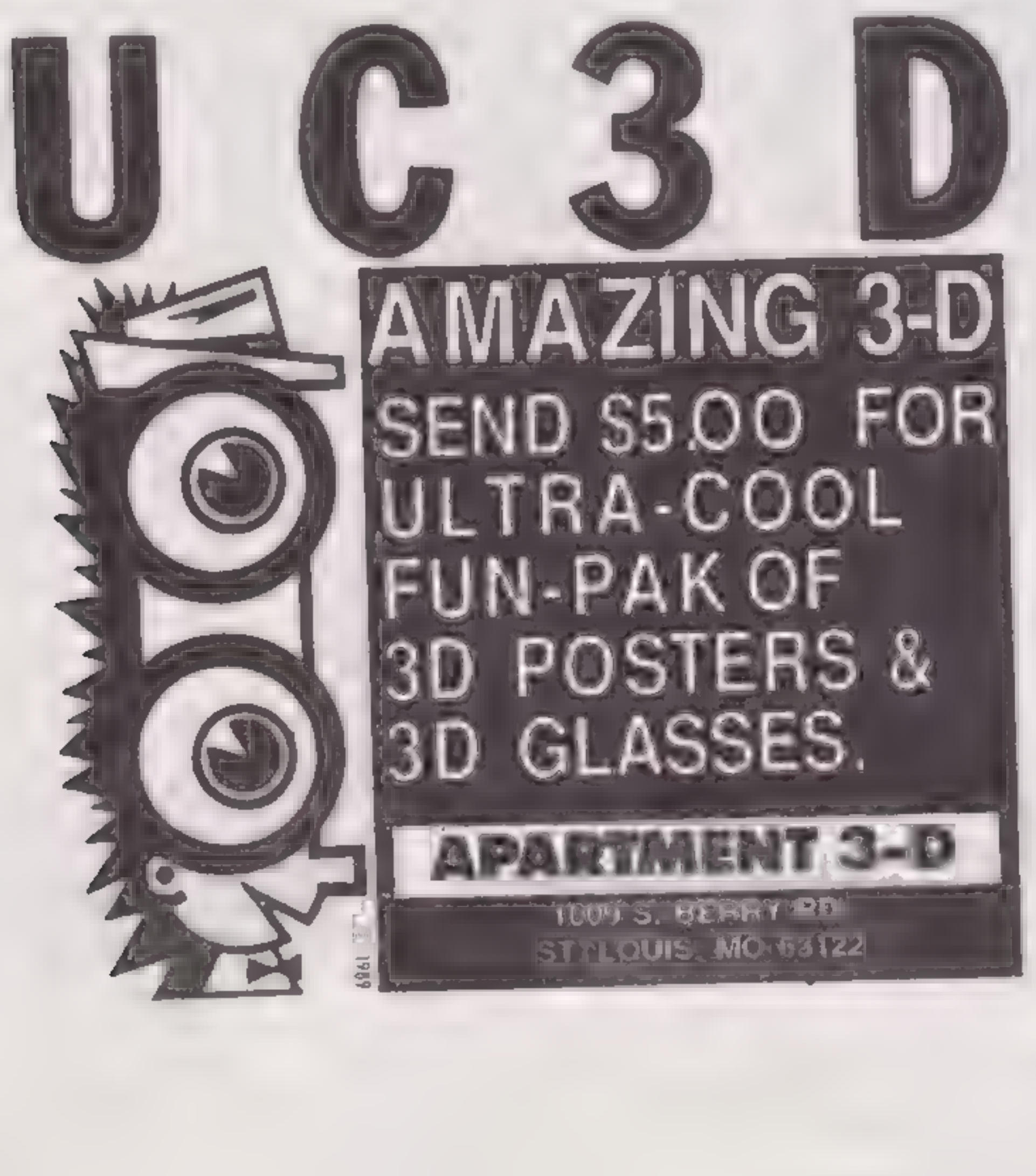
•**NOAH'S ARCHIVE UTILITY** (Shareware on **FF** BBS; registration $20 from Richard Levey, 151-28 22nd Ave., Whitestone, NY 11357): This is a new archiving utility, based on a proprietary algorithm for data compression. The author presents test results showing its superiority (in terms of disk spaced used) over PKZIP, LHARC, and ARC. Unfortunately I was not able to reproduce these results on my own files. This does not mean that the product was misrepresented, merely that what I compress is a different mix of files than the utility was tested on. And it was clearly superior to PKZIP on certain files, notably some executable code. However, on large groups of word processing or Ventura Publisher files—the sorts of things I typically archive—it performed worse, both in space and in time needed to compress the files. Part of the problem is that NOAH as yet does not provide for an archive consisting of multiple files; it insists on packing each file separately. This leads to extra hidden overhead in unfilled sectors of the disk. If you have a particular application in mind, whether it's distributing programs or archiving text, you should try a couple of potential compression utilities, including this one. But don't take anyone's claims as being representative of your own compression patterns. [ASP](IBM)

•**OPEN DOOR** ($6 from PC-SIG, 1030-C E. Duane Ave. Dept. 2186, Sunnyvale, CA 94086[order #2157]; registration $39.95): This is a program designed to simulate the operation of Something Important on your computer screen, just in case the boss walks by. It also allegedly will help you pick a restaurant or answer other random question—though in the absence of on-disk documentation I couldn't make that part work. The screens aren't especially convincing, either. Not a winner. (IBM)

•**The Organizer** (Shareware on **FF** BBS; registration $30 from Computing Systems Design, 6712 E. 102nd St., Tulsa, OK 74133): A DOS shell and hard disk menu program with a built-in appointment calendar. The installation process is straightforward, and you can be running the program almost immediately. Configurations (particularly of colors) is a bit clunky but well-explained, and there is on-screen help available at all times. You need to know enough DOS to find your programs but then adding them to the menu is easy too. There is also a built in DOS shell for the common commands that works from pull down menus. I found the high point of this software to be the appointment calendar, which is easy to use, well-displayed, and zooms at a keystroke from the month's overview to the day's appointments. On the other hand, there seems to be an incompatibility with the expanded memory manager I'm using (PC MAGAZINE's EMS40.SYS) which causes the program to not properly release blocks of memory it grabs. On the whole, I like the look and feel of **HDM IV** better (see FF36) but this is an acceptable and somewhat cheaper product, and the calendar is a useful addition to the base menuing program. [ASP](IBM)

•**PARTY PLANNER** (Shareware on **FF** BBS; registration $10 from Rich Gold, 815 N. Gardner St., Los Angeles, CA 90046): Rich calls this software "Algorithmic Symbolism"; it's basically a sort of mathematical art. What Party Planner does is simulate a cocktail party, where up to twenty guests have well-established likes and dislikes for one another. Shown as letters on the screen, they waltz around each other as everyone tries to avoid their enemies and be near their friends. All the parameters are variable, and although the display is nothing to write home about, the interactions here can be rather intriguing. Rich is very interested in hearing from other people doing this sort of mathematical abstract art. (IBM)

•**PC-Draft-CAD V. 3.01a** (Shareware on **FF** BBS; registration $65 from Natural Software, 19 S. Fifth St., St. Charles, IL 60174): There seems to be a shareware alternative for almost any major class of software. This is one of the better Computer Aided Drawing (think of a drafting table on screen) programs I've used, and I've used some that cost ten times as much. Installation was simple and I was up and running, configured to my hardware, in half an hour; beyond a few strange printer glitches (it seems sensitive to the order things are turned on in) I had no problems. There's a bound manual, but the interface is intuitive, and the on-screen help is good, so it's seldom needed just to make drawings. What the manual; does do well is explain the intricacies of layers and objects and libraries and so on—and how to edit the database entries that control their appearance directly. Other handy features include support for dot-matrix and LaserJet printers, as well as HPGL, full undo and redo, and transparent virtual memory to 32 megabytes. It even comes with a Super VGA driver that made for stunning displays on my machine. The registered version adds a few other goodies,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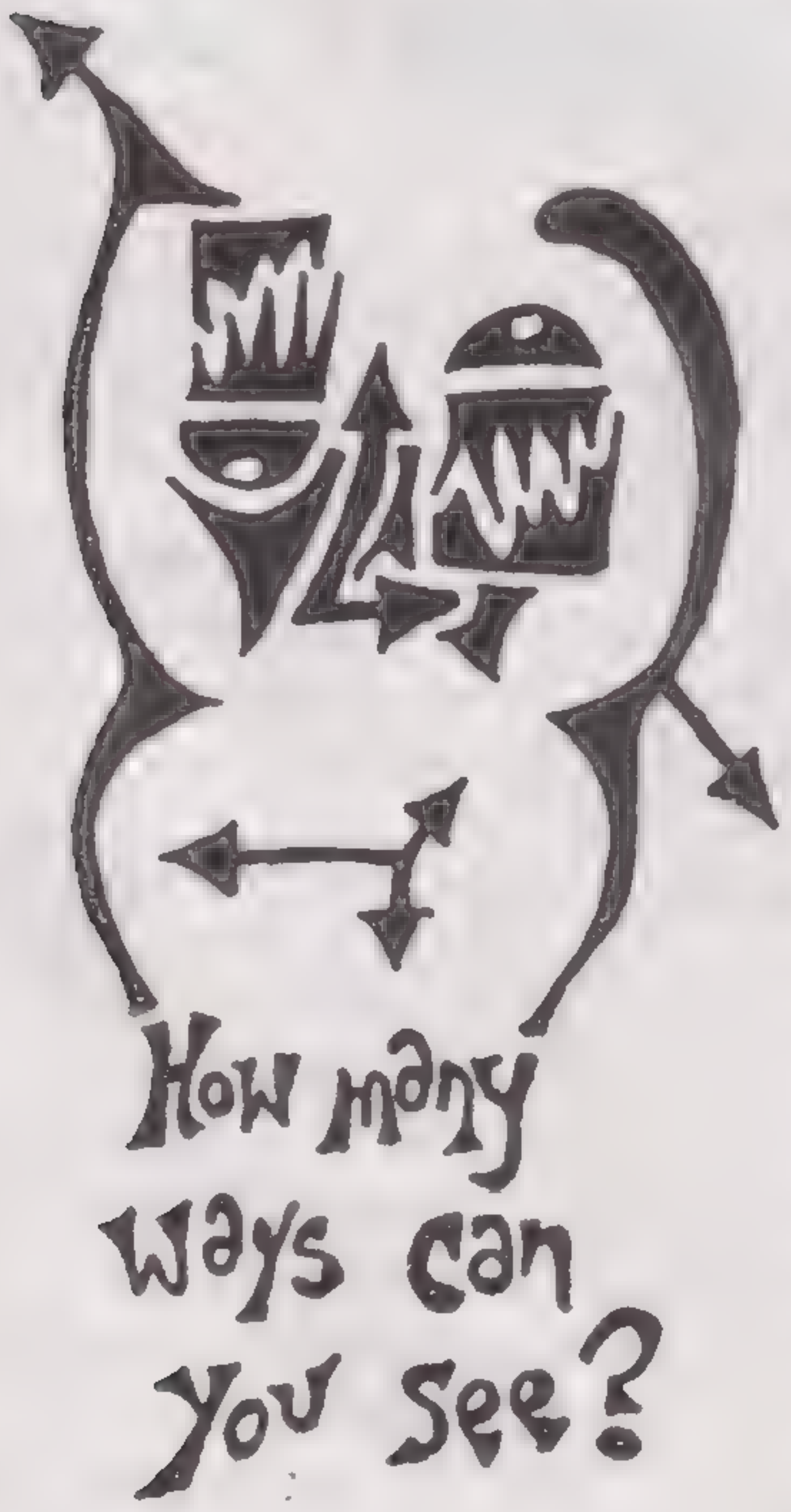
including AutoCAD, Word Perfect, and GEM translation utilities. All in all, a good deal for the user who needs some CAD capabilities but doesn't have an unlimited budget. [ASP](IBM)

•QEdit Advanced Version 2.1 (Shareware on FF BBS; registration $54.95 & $3 s&h from SemWare, 4343 Shallowford Rd. #C-3, Marietta, GA 30062-5003): Familiar software is like a comfortable pair of old bluejeans; usually the comfort outweighs any flashiness that one might gain by switching to newer things, so the status quo holds. Well, I've been using one particular text editor for about five years now, and never found another one worth switching to—until QEdit showed up, that is. This program is a beautiful example of what software *should* be: small, efficient, fast and customizable. There are around 130 commands available in QEdit, from simple things like "Delete To End of Line" to more complex ones like sorting or changing the case in a block of text. Every command can be assigned to any function key, and assignment files are provided (with the registered version) to emulate several other popular editors. You can have up to 8 windows on the screen at once and an unlimited number of files in the process of being edited (I loaded up fifty at a time with no problem). QEdit understands EGA and VGA monitors and extended keyboards with no problems. It's also got lots of nice little touches, such as the ability to tell it that tabs are a different width in program source code than in letters. The registered version includes a macro compiler (macro recording is available in the shareware version), a compiler-invocation utility, and other goodies, as well as free BBS Technical support. There are also OS/2 and TSR versions available. If you have any reason to move text around, this is worth a look. [ASP](IBM)

•**Return To Kroz** ($6 from PC-SIG, 1030-C E. Duane Ave. Dept. 2186, Sunnyvale, CA 94086[order #2001]; registration $7.50): A character-based dungeon game for the PC, vaguely reminiscent of the classic HACK but faster and more challenging. You move your little happy face around on the screen, using whips to pummel monsters, teleports to escape them, stairs to get to new levels, and gems to survive. There are nooks and crannies to hide in, bottomless pits and lava flows to avoid. Actually, there are probably a lot more hazards, but I've yet to get beyond the fifth screen here. Addictive enough that I'm going to wipe it off my hard disk so I can get some work done. Also available from the author are two more games to complete the Kroz Trilogy, as well as hints for dealing with this one. (IBM)

•**Sick Humor** ($10 from FTW Products, 154 S. Hedges St., Dayton, OH 45403-2222): "What is the difference between a snowman and a snow woman? Snowballs!" That's right, SICK HUMOR is a joke book on disk for your C-64/128. From blacks to Jews to Helen Keller to the smurfs, everyone gets it in well over 1,000 two-liners. I've heard a bunch of these before, but then again I've read almost every joke book there is out there. So I'm sure most of these will be new to you. And if you've heard a good one lately, send it in and maybe they will use it next time. (Commodore 64/128)(Reviewed by Steve Blum)


How many ways can you see?

•**STACKEY and BATUTIL** (Shareware on FF BBS; registration $39 for each program from CtrlAlt Associations, 260 S. Lake Ave. #133, Pasadena, CA 91101): Some computer programs you can evaluate all at once, because they do one obvious thing—draw pictures or add numbers or whatever. Then there are the programs that slowly infiltrate into your system. These two are of the latter persuasion, utilities with lots of options for making your life at the DOS prompt easier, and they do it well. STACKEY is basically a keyboard buffer stuffer; it simulate typing from the keyboard, but does it under program control. So if you often start a spreadsheet program, load a particular spreadsheet, and set some options, you can do it all by calling a single batch file of STACKEY commands (or a 4DOS alias, for that matter, which is even more elegant). STACKEY also offers easy control of colors on your monitor (up to VGA resolution), beeps and hotkey simulation, and software-controlled rebooting. And its documentation even has a pretty complete tutorial on how keystrokes are processed by DOS. BATUTIL, the other program in this package, is a batch file extender, adding a bunch of commands that DOS left out of its rudimentary batch language. Your batch files can check the date and time, the amount of free disk space, the presence or absence of a file, or the type of processor. They can present menus or huge and colorful letters. They can modify the DOS environment in new and wonderful ways. In short, with BATUTIL you can design interactive batch files of near-infinite complexity. This morning, for example, I used these two programs to make it possible to boot my computer, press a single key, and have it load all different resident utilities so as to be able to run Ventura Publisher, which I previously had to do by hand. It only took me about half an hour to do this, and I expect to be using these utilities for some time to come. [ASP](IBM)

•**TesSeRact** version 1.10 (Trial copy $10, registered version $25 from Innovative Data Concepts, 1657 The Fairways #101, Jenkintown, PA 19046): This is a set of software routines for program developers who are deeper into the guts of the MS-DOS operating system than I am. TesSeRact provides two things: a standardized interface for Terminate and Stay Resident (TTSR) programs, and the functions needed to support that interface. Essentially, it is designed to prevent developers from having to re-invent the wheel every time they want to write a well-behaved TSR. The routines are well-documented, and designed to work with major compilers from MicroSoft and Borland. Sample programs are provided on the disk, and a second disk of the actual TesSeRact source code is available as well. It seems to be a solid product, and if you're at all interested in TSR development, it should save you a lot of work—as well as making it possible to write TSRs that will work with such programs as STACKEY which adhere to the TesSeRact standard. [ASP](IBM)

•**VIRUSCAN, SCANRES, & CLEAN-UP** ($6 from PC-SIG, 1030-C E. Duane Ave. Dept. 2186, Sunnyvale, CA 94086[order #2095]; registration $25, $25, and $25; VIRUSCAN also available on the FF BBS): This is a suite of three programs designed to keep your computer free of virus infection. VIRUSCAN will check all the files on your disk for viruses; SCANRES will remain resident in memory and watch for them as they strike; and Clean-Up will remove them from your disk if they are found. In my opinion, the danger from viruses has been overestimated, but it still pays to practice safe computing. That means first and foremost backing up your system on a regular basis. But it also means knowing where your software came from and running a virus checker at regular intervals if you ever put a foreign disk in your machine or download a program. I run VIRUSCAN regularly on the FF BBS, and recommend it as a solid product. But I would recommend getting it from a trusted BBS because it is constantly being updated; three new versions came out in the month between my getting this disk for review and actually writing it. (IBM)

•Much of the software reviewed in FF is available for downloading on the FF BBS (518-479-3879, 3/12/2400 baud, 24 hours). There are also a bunch of companies out there who sell shareware for a couple of bucks per disk. Some that have sent me catalogs recently include:

PC-SIG (1030-D E. Duane Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94086) maintains a large library with many of the most popular programs and also publishes **SHAREWARE** magazine. Members get a $2 discount on

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disks ordered from PC-SIG. **Shareware Elite** (25 Cades Parc, Helston, Cornwall, TR13 8QS) is the only distributor I know of in the British Isles. They sent me their nifty hypertext catalog on a 3 1/2" diskette, with descriptions of 700+ titles, graphic screens from new additions to their library, a list of popular disks and much more. **Shareware Express** (27601 Forbes Rd. #37, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677), a company that marks programs down from $4.95 to $2.95 for special sales, and takes orders toll-free at 800-346-2842. **Sizzleware** (PO Box 6429, Lake Charles, LA 70606), a shareware distributor with a reasonably good stock and a price of $1.99 per diskette plus shipping. If you write they might send you a catalog.

•**Software updates:**

IMPORTANT EVENTS

•**The 12th Annual National Conservative Student Conference** is scheduled for August 12-18, 1990 in Washington, DC. For more information write Young America's Foundation, 11800 Sunrise Valley Dr., Reston, VA 22091 or call (703)-620-5270.

•**The Fourth Worldwide Conference of Community Oriented Radio** will take place in Dublin, Ireland, August 12-19, 1990. For more information contact the National Association of Community Broadcasters, 32 Gardiner Place, Dublin, IRELAND; phone 353-1-788733.

•**PEPCON 1990** is fourth annual conference on polyfidelity sponsored by PEP. It will be held August 17-19, 1990, in Eugene Oregon. For more information contact PEP at PO Box 6306, Captain Cook, HI 96704-6306.

•**The Socialist Party USA** is holding its first annual national conference at Camp Keewano, Michigan, August 19-21, 1990. Their general outlook on life is democratic socialist feminist. For more information contact them at 516 W. 25th St., New York, NY 10001 or call (212)-691-0776.

•The Fourth **North American Bioregional Congress** will be held at Lake Cobbosseecontee in Maine, August 19-26 1990. Fees for adults start at $125 for the week. For more information, Write to NABC IV c/o Gulf of Maine Books, 61 Maine St., Brunswick, ME 04011.

•**A Conference on Biostasis & Reentry** is being held at Asilomar (a conference center in California) August 24-26, 1990. This will include both technical sessions and political discussions for advocates of cryonics. Prices for the weekend start at $135. Contact Lifepact, PO Box 18698, South Lake Tahoe, CA 95706; (916)-577-4746 for more information.

•**A Hemp Legalization Rally** is being held at the state capital in Albany, New York, on August 27th, 1990 . The event will be held on the east steps, and is planned to last from 4:30 to 7:30. For more information, contact Paul Cavanaugh at (518)-766-5617.

•**Fantacon '90** is "the East Coast's largest horror & comic con", being held September 8-9, 1990. Tickets are $10 per day in advance, and it's being held right across the river from me in Albany (if you comer, give me a call and maybe we can get together for lunch or something). Contact Fantaco Enterprises, 21 Central Ave., Albany, NY 12210; (518)-463-1400.

•**Sonic Disturbance** is a major festival of new music, sound sculpture, performance poetry and other audio events sponsored by the Cleveland Public Theatre, running September 12-23, 1990. For more information write to 1607 Clark Ave, Cleveland, OH, 44109 or call (216)-621-8738.

•**The Third Annual Small Press Fair**, hosted by the Small Press Group of Britain, will be held Saturday, September 29, 1990 in the Royal Horticultural Society Old Hall, in London near Victoria Station. For more information you can write to the SPG at BM Bozo, London WC1N 3XX, ENGLAND or phone 0234 211606.

•**ditto 3** is a science fiction convention targeted specifically for fanzine fans and emphasizing relaxation and publishing. It's being held October 5-7, 1990, in Northbrook, Illinois (near Chicago). For more information contact Leah and Dick Smith, 17 Kerry Ln., Wheeling, IL 60090; (708)-537-1306.

•**The Great San Francisco Crystal Fair** will be held at Fort Mason center October 6-7, 1990. For more information contact Jerry Tomlinson at the Pacific Crystal Guild, PO Box 1371, Sausalito, CA 94966-1371; (415)-383-7837.

•**Aleister Crowley's "The Rites of Eleusis"** are scheduled to be performed at Conway Hall, London, England in October and November 1990. Each of the seven rites will be undertaken by a different group or individual. For information contact BCM OMEN-TIDE, London WC1N 3XX, UK.

•**The Second Annual Collectible Paperback Expo** will be on October 13, 1990, at the Days Inn in New York City. Admission is $5 at the door, and dealer tables are $50. For more information contact Gryphon Publications at PO Box 209, Brooklyn, NY 11228 or call Gary Lovisi at (718)-646-6126 between 6PM and 10PM only.

•The Fourth Annual **"Dressing For Pleasure" Gala** will take place October 19-21, 1990 in New York City. For more information for this fashion show of corsets, leather, latex, spike heals and such, contact Constance Enterprises, PO Box 43277, Upper Montclair, NJ 07043.

•**The 1990 Alliance for Cultural Democracy National Gathering** will take place in Albuquerque, NM, November 2-4, 1990. For information write ACD Conference, PO Box 81952, Albuquerque, NM 87198.

•**The 15th Annual Doo-Dah Parade** will be held in Pasadena on November 25, and will be the first one carried on commercial television. For more information, send an SASE to Pasadena Doo Dah Parade, PO Box 2392, Pasadena, CA 91102 or phone (818)-796-2591.

•A national **Lesbian Conference** will take place April 24-28, 1991. The national planning office may be reached at PO Box 3057, Albany, NY 12203 or call (518)-463-1051; the conference itself will take place in Atlanta.

•**Corflu 8**, the convention for SF fanzine fans, will be held May 3-5, 1991 in El Paso, Texas. Attending memberships are $35. Contact Richard Brandt, 4740 N. Mesa #111, El Paso, TX; (915)-542-0443 for more information.

•**VOLGA-CON** is a science fiction convention being organized by the SF Club "The Wind of Time" in the USSR. It will take place September 8-14, 1991. For more information, write to Boris A. Zavgorodny, Volgograd-66, Central Post Office, Poste Restante, USSR.

•If you're interested in a pagan events, you should subscribe to Larry Cornett's calendar of festivals, gatherings, and so on. $4 per year from 9527 Blake Ln. #102, Fairfax, VA 22031.

MAIL ART

•**Aesthetic Dialogue Discourse** (Adamant, 207 Sterling Pl., Brooklyn, NY 11238) continues to send enigmatic single-sheet posters my way; the most recent is captioned "Do it Now; Think Later".

•**afungusboy** (PO Box 134, Brockport, NY 14420) has been cranking out 3"x5" color collages for a while now, and will trade them for similar items or sell you a set of five for $1 and a 25¢ stamp.

•**BRAIN CELL** (3-76-I-A-613 Yagumokitacho, Moriguchi-City, Osaka 570, JAPAN) is Ryosuke Cohen's continuing mailart project, up to its 177th brightly-colored poster as of early June. To participate, send an original rubber stamp or 150 stickers or seals and get back the collection that uses your work.

•**"Day of the Dead"** is the theme for a mail art show being hosted by A Classic Pair (PO Box 771, Royal Oak, MI 48068). Work is to be based on the Mexican festival of the same name, size and medium are open, and documentation will be provided. Deadline is October 15 for a November bookstore display.

•**"Dead Celebrities"** (Carl Stevenson, Windsor Arts Centre, The Old Court, Saint leonards Road, Windsor, ENGLAND) is the theme of a mail art show with all wok to be exhibited at the Windsor Fringe Visual Arts Festival. Size and medium free, no returns, documentation to all, deadline Sept. 12, 1990.

•**Paul N. Dion** (24 Main St., S. Grafton, MA 01560) sends me the occasional poster drawing on pop-culture images with subtle alterations. His stuff is available for swap with other artists. He also issues his own little screwball play-money bills and tickets.

•**FaGaGaGa** (PO Box 1382, Youngstown, OH 44501) is *the* source for a continued deluge of mail art postcards. A couple of bucks or something interesting should put you on the mailing list.

•**A. Franza** (254 River Dr., Moriches, NY 11955) sent a couple of collage-altered mainstream magazine cover photocopies.

•**Fucci** (HC 68, Box 2150, Prineville, OR 97754) sends the occasional surreal drawing and decorated envelope my way.

•**Junk Mail** — the practice of swapping envelopes full of who knows what—continues to be on the upswing. Here's a few participants who will send you theirs if you send them yours:

•**Alizarin** (PO Box 127, Wickatunk, NY 07765) is discontinuing her Junk Mail service, after many envelopes of fun stuff. However, don't dismay; there's now a photo postcard swap instead. Send a photo made into a postcard and get one in return. Or maybe more, I don't know.

•**Brian OF** (41 School St., Littleton, NH 03561) sent a package heavy on his own creativity of art and prose, plus media images, dust bunnies, and more. He appreciates a personal letter with trade requests.

•**Johnson Recycling** (945 E. 43, Eugene, OR 97405) will send you "Little Stuff" (in a small envelope) for 75¢ an ounce or "Big Stuff" (in a big envelope) for 40¢ an ounce. Collages, chain letters, zines and trading cards were all part of the packages I received.

•**The Joy of Detritus** (Christopher Martin, Rt. 1 Box 373, Charlottesville, VA 22901-9605) seems to have a higher than usual commercial content, with the focus on consumer society and strange politics.

•**Rev. Rad-Chad With Kung-Fu Grip** (PO Box 1103, New Boston, TX 75570) asks either 50¢ or "something that will either raise eyebrows or raise consciousness" for his stuff. The treasure of a recent package to me was a recruiting booklet for FBI Special Agents.

•**Phoenix** (PO Box 92007, Santa Barbara, CA 93190-2007) included trading cards, stickers, photos and clipped-out cartoons, among other things.

•**Shark Art** (150 DeGraw St. #3R, Brooklyn, NY 11231) is interested in contacting writers and artists, sending an assemblage of stickers, yarn, tape, rubber stamping and magazine pictures.

•**Wall-ter** (PO Box 501, Lebanon, KY 40033) seems inclined towards real junk, little shreads of paper, and an altered political pamphlet.

•**Gene Kuhn** (1103 E. St. Germain, St. Cloud, MN 56304) will be happy to swap mail art with anyone.

•**Paul Lamontellerie** (180, rue de Charonne, 75011 Paris, FRANCE) sent me an envelope full of stuff including a photo, some subway tickets, a postcard from a local theatre and other cultural debris. If this isn't art I don't know what it is.

•**Ruggero Maggi** (C.so Sempione 67, 20149 Milano, ITALY) is one of the giants of the international mail art scene, keeping up a steady stream of writings, posters, stickers and other goodies to my address. He would no doubt be most responsive to original mail art of your own.

•**Mindspew 001** (Liberation Press, 2005 Palo Verde Ave. #230, Long Beach, CA 90815) is a collage by Layne Schroeder with everything from gears to skulls worked in it somewhere. One page, probably for trade.

•**Mystery Trip** (Belin Czechowicz, ul. Dragonow 8 m. 16, 00-467 Warsawa, POLAND) is the somewhat enigmatic title of a mail art show being organized in Poland. Any size, any media, deadline is December 31, and documentation to all participants.

•**Geza Perneczky** (Grosse Witschgasse 3-5, D 5000 Köln 1, WEST GERMANY) sent me his "The Boy Evacuee" collection of Art Strike papers, placards, and posters. Fun stuff, inviting all artists to move to Yugoslavia where the Art Strike is superfluous. Send something classy and maybe you can get a copy in return.

•**THE PRESIDENT JOURNAL** (General Delivery, Tofield, AB, T0B 4J0, CANADA) is refocusing on mail art and will need news, articles, and so on from mail artists.

QUEER (749 Niagara, San Francisco, CA 94112) sent an envelope with a color photo, some shreds of plant matter and a bit of plastic.

•**The Raisin D'Etre** is the lastest disgusting piece of mail from Donald F. Busky (7393 Rugby St., Philadelphia, PA 19138-1236). You can probably guess what's inside the envelope. Donald also sent me a product announcement from the Aluminum Stationery Company.

•**Robert Rehfeldt** (Mendelstr. 19, 1100 BERLIN, WEST GERMANY) sent me a listing of forthcoming mail art shows. There's also some Word Strike theory and a piece on the possible use of fantasy as a replacement for faith.

•**The Shadow Project** of anti-nuclear work continues to proliferate. This year there;'s an exhibition being held in Milwaukee; for more details, send an SASE to curator Karl Young, 7112 27th Ave., Kenosha, WI 53140.

•**Swimsuit: The Photo** (Christopher B. Martin, Route 1, Box 373, Charlottesville, VA 22901-9605) is an original color photo of a rather bored girl in a swimsuit. Available for 25¢ & SASE.

•**Sandi Tan** (11c Balmoral Road, 01-01 Eden Spring, Singapore 1025, SINGAPORE) will send you "2 marvelous Fellini-esque genuine original photos" for $1 cash "plus a nice long letter." Or for an extra buck, you can get a box of delights instead, with contents like stickers, Singapore air mail labels, collages, sweet wrappers, and who knows what else.

•**Unspeakable Green Cafe's** (118 E. Goodheart Ave., Lake Mary, FL 32746) is seeking images that are :frightening, shocking, bizarre, warped, morbid, psychotic, erotic..." for a current project.

•**URBAN SPIRITUALS** was the theme of a mail art show held in late 1989 in Seattle. A few copies of the catalog are available for $25 (MO/Cashiers check) from Craig W. Summers, 4308 Greenwood Ave. N, Seattle, WA 98103. It's somewhat over fifty pages long and includes many color reproductions and fold-out pages, as well as contact information for everyone who participated.

•**Wall-ter** (PO Box 501, Lebanon, KY 40033) sent me a few photos and stickers, including a very nice cow sticker.

OTHER NEWS

•**9th St. Laboratories** (c/o Jake Berry, PO Box 3112, Florence, AL 35630) is Jake's name for his production of experimental audio, video and written materials. You can get a catalog for an SASE.

•**AllPIE** (PO Box 59, East Chatham, NY 12060-0059) is the Alliance for Parental Involvement in Education. It's a resource for those in public and private school as well as homeschoolers. They publish a newsletter, run a referral service, conduct workshops and carry a number of books on educational alternatives. Write for a free brochure.

•**AMAZING EXPERIENCES** is trying something new: a litzine by telephone. They have a number you can call to listen to a story, tell your own story, answer a survey, get news about conventions, and more. It's 1-900-ADIGEST (234-4378), at $1.99 for the first minute and 99¢ for each additional minute.

•**The Anti-Catholic League** (18620 McCraken Rd., Maple Heights, OH 44137) continues to send me a wide variety of unsolicited nonsense on the end of the world, the Beast of Revelations, and the dastardly doings of the Jesuits.

•**Apartment 3-D** (1009 S. Berry Rd., St. Louis, MO 63122) produces a variety of 3-D posters on heavy stock, with themes from dinosaurs to Bosses' Day. For $5 they'll send you a sample package.

•**Artware** (Taunusstr. 63b, 6200 Wiesbaden, WEST GERMANY) sent me a fat selection of clippings on their various music and other media activities, mostly in German but with a few other languages. $2 if you're curious for a copy.

•**Baby's Mart** (PO Box 13714, San Antonio, TX 78213) sent a poster of fifteen grinning (well, some of them, anyhow) infants. It's a multiracial group, all lined up in fluffy pajamas, and the photo is about four feet long. It's $10 postpaid, with proceeds benefiting the non-profit Parent Education for Infant Development, and purchase includes a one-year sub to **BABY CONNECTION NEWS JOURNAL.**

•**BAD HAIRCUT** (3115 SW Roxbury, Seattle, WA 98126) has issues some more postcards with semi-experimental prose and poetry on them. You can get as many as you like at 4 for $1.

•**James Barnett** (28 North Ave., New Rochelle, NY 10805) has put together an essay overview of the small press, with some attention to new media as possible distribution channels. Copies are available for an SASE.

•**The Boston Visionary Cell** (36 Bromfield St. #200, Boston, MA 02108) "is an association of Neo-Platonic artists, primarily, and others from disciplines which act as supporters and consultant, for the purpose of fostering visionary art, considered as an eternal genre". President Paul Laffoley has created a number of intricate drawings which link together images from science and mysticism in strange and wonderful ways.

•**The Brautigan Library** (PO Box 521, Burlington, VT 05402) is a new home for literature that can't seem to find a publisher. For $25 they'll bind and shelve your manuscript in their hodgepodge of other off the mainstream materials. An application is $2; manuscripts should not be sent without one.

•**Joel Brick** is a Bronx graffiti artist with lots of experience and time on his hands (since he's incarcerated at the moment). For a buck and a stamp he'll execute an 8 1/2 x 11 poster with your name on it graffiti style in full color and who knows what other goodies. I really like the one he did for FF and if I had full-color printing I'd show it to you. Anyhow, you can contact him at PO Box 726, Rochester Sta., Bronx, NY 10469.

•**CALL FOR PAPERS:** *Instead of a Magazine* and *Factsheet Five* are planning an anthology of papers on major unresolved questions in anarchist philosophy. Possible topics include: What is an anarchist? What is a government? What about criminals? How does an anarchist society work? How do we get from here to there? What about the here and now? Is anarchy the end of history? How does anarchy deal with technology? Why hasn't it worked before? What's our relation to other liberatory struggles? We're looking for papers that synthesize history with current thought and circumstances and points of view anchored in everyday life. Papers may be submitted to either *IOAM* or *FF*, and may be published individually before we collect them. For a more detailed starting point see Mike Gunderloy's essay "Closing the Gaps" in the Spring 1990 issue of *Instead of a Magazine*.

•**The Chaotic Cabal of Cthulhu** wants you, and will be happy to send a recruiting poster for an SASE to 110 Carrolton Terr. #6, Charlottesville, VA 22903.

•**The Chicken Boy Catalog for a Perfect World** (Future Studio, PO Box 292000, Los Angeles, CA 90029) is the strangest catalog I've seen since I first made the acquaintance of Archie McPhee—which means, I trust, that you will run right out and order a copy of this bit of LA history. Chicken Boy used to perch atop a restaurant; now he decorates products, and shares space with lava lamps, chile Christmas lights, wild furniture, and other goodies. Nice catalog, probably worth about $1.50.

•**Dadata** (PO Box 33, Stillwater, PA 17878) continues to send out posters with simple images and wordplay poking horrified fun at the modern American way of life—as with the picture of a happy TV-watching family captions "Peer Pressure" and "Tubal Ligation". You should be able to get a sample for an SASE.

•**Jim Dapkus** (Rte. 1 Box 247, Westfield, WI 53964) can hook you up with a computerized matching service to find financial assistance and scholarships. The fee is $60, and you can write him for more details. I'd also suggest contacting your own financial aid office or guidance counselor.

•**Daystar Books** (117 Byford Close, Stratford, London E15 4HP, ENGLAND) stocks all sorts of movie material, models, jigsaws, fanzines, posters and the like. They have discounts for cash in pounds sterling or dollars, and should be able to send you a catalog for about $3 or so.

•**dpqprodbooqpdb #5** is the latest catalog of experimental poetic and written works from Geof Huth, subtitled LAST CATALOG AT THE BOOK BURNING You can get a copy for an SASE from Geof at 225 State St. #451, Schenectady, NY 12305.

•**Eric DeJesus** (5012 Cedar Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19143) will send you a package of about 15 punk shjow flyers for a buck.

•**David Deming** (715 S. Washington St., Bloomington, IN 47401) can send you your name in braille if you send an SASE and perhaps some small interesting swap item.

•**DIAMOND HITCHHIKER COBWEBS** (118 E. Goodheart Ave., Lake Mary, FL 32746) is looking for art an writings including "long nocturnal ramblings, erotic suicide notes, punk requiems, obscure meditations, and psychotic hallucinations".

•**Dollyhead International** (73 Fitzgerald House, 169 East India Dock Road, London E14 0HH, UK) is up to its usual mixed bag of tricks. They'll distribute any flyers you care to send. They're into swapping tapes, if you send yours with a SAE and perhaps a few IRCs. And finally, there's 4" tall Eiffel Towers available for trade with similarly sized American monuments, though you should write first to check availability if this interests you.

•**The Thomas Donaldson Legal Defense Fund** (c/o Alcor, 12327 Doherty St., Riverside, CA 92503) has been established to assist Donaldson in his lawsuit to force the state of California to allow his cryonic suspension at a time he chooses, rather than after clinical death when his brain tumor will have rendered revival much more difficult. If you're at all interested in going the cryonics route yourself, you should write to Alcor for more information and seriously consider making a donation.

•**Nicholas P. Drage** (50 Park Ave., Rushden, Northants, NN10 9NP, ENGLAND) has a couple of offers for US readers. For $2 in cash he'll send four sheets of writing paper with vaguely anarchist or punkish images at the top, to make your letters more distinctive. And for $8 he will air mail you an envelope of clippings, pictures, stickers and other mail art or collage source material.

•**Dr. Prunesquallor Productions** (5125 SW Nicholls Ferry Rd. #70, Portland, OR 97225-1641) is selling cards with intricate op artish drawings on the front for $1.50 each or $5 for 5.

•**Earth Care** (PO Box 3335, Madison, WI 53704) are sellers of recycled paper, both greeting cards and reams of more commercial stock. I buy from them, and I hope you think about it too.

•**Fantaco's 1990 Horror Yearbook** (21 Central Ave., Albany, NY 12210-1400) is out, chock full of strange and wonderful comics and horror related items you can order, from issues of DEATH RATTLE right through Freddie Kruger masks. Though mainly a catalog, it also has a few other features, such as the continued FANGORIA contents checklist. $4 will get you a copy shipped anywhere in the world.

•**The First SubGenius Apostolic Church** (PO Box 8622, Salem, MA 01971) will send a full color postcard of one of Paul Laffoley's fabulously detailed systematic paintings for a 15¢ stamp.

•**Eric Fisher** (271 Hendrix Pl., Philadelphia, PA 19116) is looking for publishers of zines with circulation 1000+ who would like to run his short fiction aimed at the average teen with a sense of humor. Terms are negotiable (but payment is not expected) and a sample is available to publishers on request.

•**THE FLAMING AFFRO** skatezine (204 Elmhurst Dr., Chickasha, OK 73018) is looking for photos and words for publication.

•**Freedom Now** (c/o Tom Rainey, 428 College Ave., DeKalb, IL 60115) sell a variety of anarchist and similar buttons, from $1 each on down if you buy in quantity. All are hand-colored. Catalog is 50¢.

•**Ghoul's Gallery** (2926 W. Leland, Chicago, IL 60625) is a mail-order source for things like bouncing eyeballs, creepy refrigerator magnets, and rubber roaches. They also stock horror and related books. A buck or two should get their current catalog.

•**HARDWARE** (710 Adeline St., Trenton, NJ 08611-2618) will send you their writer's guidelines on request. They're explicitly "The Magazine of Technophilia".

•**Haypenny Press** (211 New St., West Paterson, NJ 07424) has a catalog of postcards available for 2 25¢ stamps. Most of their designs are simple line art, plugs for reading as an adventure, or other material aimed at the teen/pre-teen crowd.

•**Heroes Against Crime** is the title of a poster from Watson Graphics (4141 S. Indiana, Chicago, IL 60653). It shows a variety of small press superheroes from Watson and Five Star, with the busty women out in front, all after some menace off the side of the poster. Printed on 20-pound gloss stock and about 11"x17", copies are available for $1.25.

•**Ryan Hopeless** (7146 Remmet #120, Canoga Park, CA 91303) has announced that he wants to swap plastic skeletons. Send him any number and get the same number in return. Or if you don't have any plastic skeletons, you can get 10 for $2. Also check out the SYSTEM OPPOSED hotline for punk shows and other events in Southern California: 818-905-4631.

•**The Hospitality Exchange** (Lee Glickstein & Joy-Lily, 116 Coleridge St., San Francisco, CA 94110) is a group of folks who make crash space available to other HE members when they're traveling. Membership is $15 per year; for more information send a SASE.

•**Ill-Vis Rules** (PO Box 1421, New Brunswick, NJ 08903) has available a set of three "sexy super heroine note cards", line drawings involving such personalities as Bat Woman in bondage and Wonder Woman dropping her top. $1 and an age statement will get you all three.

•**The Intergalactic House of Fruitcakes** (PO Box 235, Williamstown, MA 01267-0235) continues to send plenty of obscure posters about the Otisian faith as well as other activities like Waiting for Beckett.

•**Michael Jacobs** (Suite 602, 1916 Pike Pl. #12, Seattle, WA 98101) is passionately interested in classic radio dramas, and would like to head from other collectors who want to exchange and correspond on the subject. He's also starting an apa devoted to old-time radio; write for more details. For an SASE Michael will also send you his catalog of public domain old time radio shows he has for sale on tape.

•**Learning At Home** (PO Box 270, Honaunau, HI 96726) is a catalog of "Learning Resources for Families" with a bunch of neat home-teaching books and items in it. They cover everything from GED preparation to marbleizing to dolphin models to self-directed elementary architecture study. Maybe a buck for the catalog.

•James Lindley, fanzine publisher and occasional **FF** artist, is interested in getting his art in more publications. Drop him a line if you'd like some samples, from 2504 Peabody #1, Bellingham, WA 98225.

•**LOST AND FOUND** is a new book coming from Feral House (PO Box 861893, Los Angeles, CA 90086-1893). They're looking for unusual lost and found notices, "The more home-made the better. Lost or found humans, pets, objects, minerals, vegetables...anything". They're paying $5 for every item they use in the book, and $50 each for the weirdest and saddest notices.

•**The LOVE Project** (c/o Diabolos Graphics, PO Box 4527, Portland, OR 97208) is an acronym for Lurid Offensive Visual Emblem, and is a set of 4 11x17 posters available for $1 apiece. Each one features a graphic of things like amputation or deformed penises, and accompanying text from psychological cases of bizarre behavior and fetishes.

•**LUNO** (31960 SE Chin St., Boring, OR 97009) is another outpost in the world of adult, at-home, and innovative education. Editor Gene Lehman provides interesting phonetic games, essays on education, and visions of how the system could be changed for the better in his frequent mailings. Send a buck or two for a sample.

•**The Maine Photographic Resource** (Rockport, ME 04856) is "A complete source of supply for the serious photographer", from plastic cameras through darkroom kits. They'll probably send a catalog on request.

•**MESSIAH** (PO Box 10035, Winston-Salem, NC 27108) is holding a contest for the best short story about the person(s) leaving roses on Edgar Allan Poe's grave. $50 first prize, write for more details.

•**MOONSCENTS & MAGICKAL BLENDS** (PO Box 1588, Cambridge, MA 02238) are a mail order source for a variety of products, including herbs, essential oils, crystals, pentacles, and so on. About a buck for the catalog, I'd say.

•**MOTHER HART'S NATURAL PRODUCTS** (PO Box 4229, Boynton Beach, FL 33424-4229) are a catalog source for natural fiber goods from bedding to aprons to camisoles. They feature both plant and animal fibers, as well as a few oddball products like deodorant stones. $1 or so for a catalog.

•**The Mountain of 1991** (Pilliard Dickle, PO Box 1077, Studio F, Newnan, GA 30264) is the latest calendar from the fevered mind and delightful pen of Pilliard Dickle. It's an 18"x24" laminated full-color poster, with the story of Dickle's continued travels through the land of Calendaria on the back. His 1990 Calendar won a national award ("Most Original Poster Calendar") and this one is if anything even more delightful. A work of art which doubles to help you keep track of the days. Copies are $12 plus $3 shipping for the first and $1 for each additional.

•**The National UFO Museum** (PO Box 20593, Sun Valley, NV 89433) is opening in Reno in April 1991. For more information and their news updates send $2.

•**Oneirics** (c/o Richard DeVaney, P.S.C. #3798, Loring AFB, ME 04751) is a new idea: a "dream exchange". Richard invites you to send a report on an actual dream you've had, and in return he will send one of his own.

•**T. Paine** (PO Box 343, Tiverton, RI 02878) is developing a new sort of westernized Taoist syncretist philosophy. For $1 you can get more information, listing some basic points of view and talking about how to live better in the world.

•**P.A.N.A.L.**, a political organization for prisoners, would like to receive info from other organizations and publications involved in prison reform. Contact Michael J. Stotts, PO Box 4167, Halfmoon, NY 12065.

•**Panscan** is a new computer conference on networking, postal art, and similar experimental media topics being moderated by Marc Bloch (who beginning with this issue is also writing for **FACTSHEET FIVE**). It is definitely worth checking into if you would like an interactive discussion of the subversive quality of the networking media. The conference is carried on Echo, a computer conferencing system headquartered in New York. To get an Echo account, call (voice, not computer) (212)-255-3839. Echo usage is a flat fee of $18.95 per month, and gets you access to plenty more than just Panscan—for more info, send an SASE to 97 Perry St. #13, New York, NY 10014.

•**The Partnership for a Reality Free America** (PO Box 5490, Winter Park, FL 32793-5490) has available a small catalog of their products, including the magazine **MOLE** as well as stickers and chapbooks. SASE for your copy.

•**Redwing Blackbird** (PO Box 2042, Decatur, GA 30031-2042)is a mail-order distributor of anarchist, punk, and other non-mainstream periodicals. For a buck, they'll send you a copy of their current catalog.

•**Revenge & Guilt** (Planetarium Station, PO Box 447, New York, NY 10024-0447) has some more humorous postcards available, from the thirtysomething Chainsaw Massacre to a Flaccid Hasid on Acid. 50¢ each or $3 for a dozen.

•**Richard** (PO Box 18307, Rochester, NY 14618) offers to write personal romantic letters to any woman sending $3.

•**No Sleep Productions** (Ray Alcat, 10347 Bodger #D, El Monte, CA 91733) make flyers for the L.A. underground thrash scene and would be delighted to receive weird and bizarre graphics to incorporate.

•**Small Press Distribution** (264 W. Columbia Ave., Battle Creek, MI 49015) is setting up a mail-order distribution service and would like to hear from interested publishers.

•**THE SOURCE** (PO Box 66385, Albany, NY 12206) us an intercollegiate newspaper starting in the Albany area this fall. They're looking for local artists and writers, and intend to cover everything from comics to poetry, news to fiction, sports to art.

•**Southeastern Small Press** is a group of small publishers organizing for regular meetings. Anyone involved in the small press is invited. For more information, write to Max(ine) at Crystal Rain, PO Box 866, Manchester, GA 31816.

•**Sparrow** (322 E. 11th St. #23, New York, NY 10003), publisher of **THE 11TH ST. RUSE** has a bunch of old manuscripts of poems and essays he wants to five away. Send stamps or SASE if you're interested in some.

•**Springhouse Naturals** (PO Box 545, Flourtown, PA 19031) is an importer of natural-fiber products such as Guatemalan change pouches and Nepalese backpacks. Drop them a line for a current price list.

•**Michael C. Tirpak** (1325 S. Fifth #23, Springfield, IL 62703) has a humorous map of Sangamon State University, showing long walks from the parking lots, security cops on horses, and friendly St. Bernards, printed on card stock and measuring 20x26 inches, available for $3.85 postpaid.

•Twin Rivers Press (PO Box 119, Ellenton, FL 34222) is still collecting information for the forthcoming **SMALL PRESS REGISTER.** Questionnaire is available for SASE, and the deadline is December 31 for returning the completed questionnaires. **SPR** is intended to be a directory of writers, editors, poets, artists, publishers and organizations.

•**H. Agnes Zwara** (Lotnicza 5/1, 82-300 Elblag, POLAND) is trying to organize a showing of material from graffiti artists, anarchists, and squatters, and would love to hear from folks in the west.

★★★★★

NOTED BUT NOT SEEN

Sometimes I get publicity for zines without getting copies of the zines themselves. Here's the news on a few items that I haven't read for myself:

•**ARRESTED DEVELOPMENT #2** ($2 from 1493 University Village, Salt Lake City, UT 84108), a zine of artwork collages,will be out in August.

•**ATHEIST PENPAL ZINE** (50¢ from Professor Pyramid, 111 12th Ave. N, St. Petersburg, FL 33701-1825) is coming soon; for an SASE you can get the form to be listed in the first issue.

•**THE BOTTOM LINE** ($2.50 from Kay Weems, Star Route, Box 21AA, Artemus, PA 17211) "is a new monthly publication that consists of the latest contest listings for writers".

•**DARK SIDE** ($5 from Route 3 Box 272-D, Ripley, MS 38663) is a new quarterly of horror fiction, poetry, and related commentary.

•**FAMILY EARTH** ($8/4 issues from 135 Buford Ave., Gettysburg, PA 17325) is a new quarterly looking at families and the environment, with emphasis on what families can do to involve their children in environmental projects. They invite requests for writers' guidelines.

•**FATHOMS BELOW** (Dan Wright, 1320 NW 76th Ave., Plantation, FL 33322) will be out in August and contain reviews, comics, collages, poems, essays and more.

•**MEAN SEASON** ($5 from President Productions, General Delivery, Tofield, AB, T0B 4J0, CANADA) will be an 80-page color-cover comic of "suspense, mystery, surreality, and horror", available by pre-order only.

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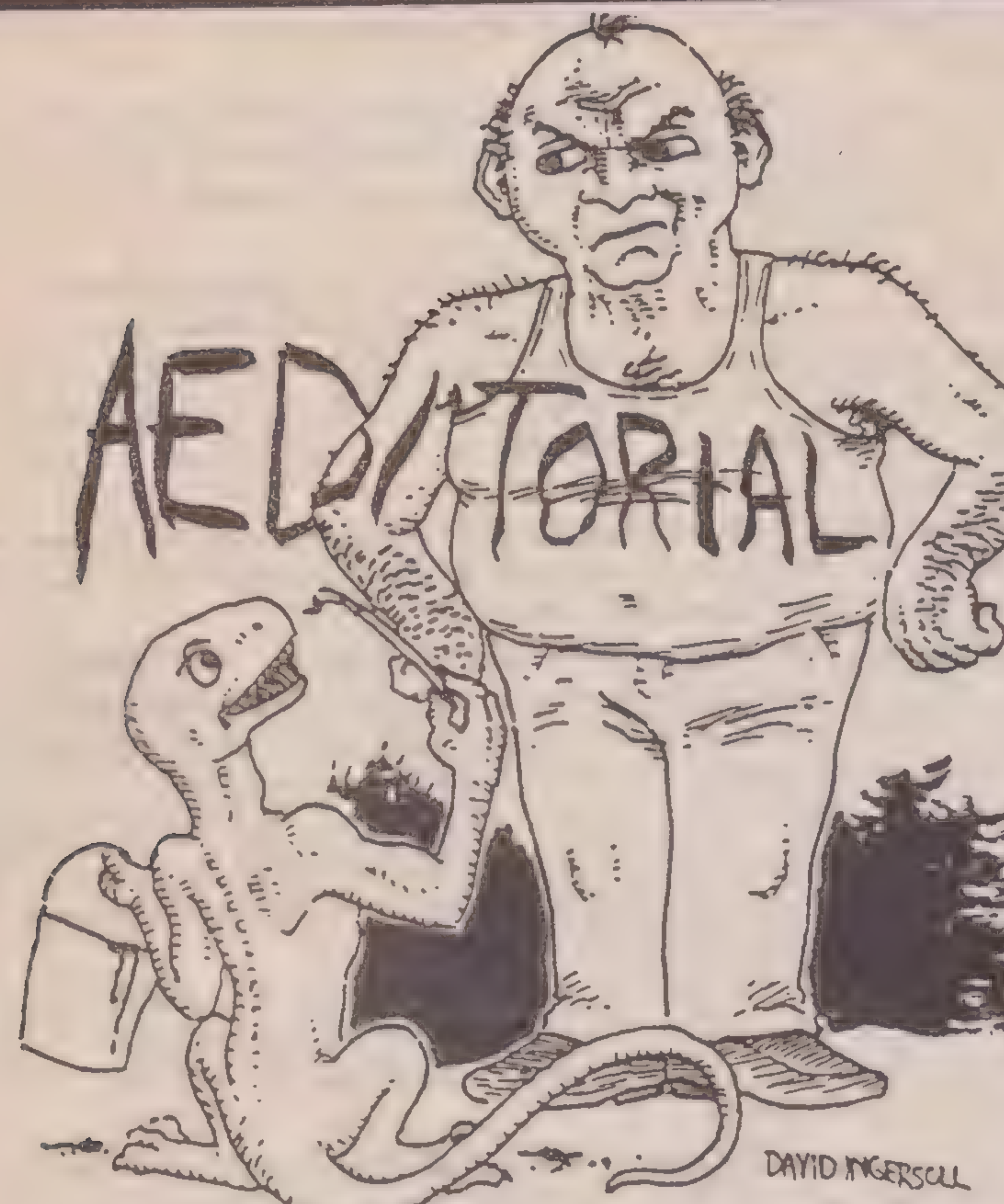


FACTSHEET FIVE has come a long way since the first two-page issue that I put together in a crowded Hyde Park apartment, shortly before the roaches drove us to seek other lodgings. That one was, I believe, tossed off in a day. Now it's a two-month job, and my work hours have climbed steadily towards the ridiculous sum of 90 hours a week. Putting this jigsaw puzzle together gets more and more complex, and to keep up with the zines, other things have been let slide from time to time; video and book reviews are both lagging at the moment. (If you sent a video or a book and it did not get reviewed in this issue it will definitely be in the next one.)

Fortunately, I'm doing something about that. Or rather, *we're* doing something about that. Starting with the next issue, **FACTSHEET FIVE** will be making the transition from a one-man show to a partnership. Jacob Rabinowitz, the moving force behind Verlag Golem Publications, is moving to the Albany area, and will be joining me half-time beginning in August. Also, Cari Goldberg, who originally signed on as Art Director and who has gradually become more essential to the smooth running of this business, will be doing more writing in future editions. The net result should be a better magazine, with less last-minute writing, more careful consideration of items being reviewed, less backlog (there are both books and tapes that made it in before the deadline but which are not reviewed in this issue), and better customer service—to say the least.

My thanks to everyone who responded to my call for partners. There were some tough decisions to be made. If all goes well—and I firmly expect that it will—**FF** will continue to grow in coming years, so I may be calling some of you back.

Meanwhile, since this calls for a celebration, let's have another **FACTSHEET FIVE** party. Mark Saturday, October 20 on your calendars. If you've been to a past **FF** party, you're invited. If you haven't and would like to come to this one, please give me a call; we need to get at least a rough idea of how many people are coming. Hope to see you there.

Now for a few more miscellaneous bits of news:

Our newest special project here is the Joe Lane booklet **STALKING THE WILD READER IN RIVER CITY**. If you were a Supporting Subscriber you would have gotten a copy free with this issue. The booklet is a history of the modern small press in Terre Haute, Indiana, and you can order a copy for $4 postpaid if you're interested. Watch for more booklets soon—one from Kerry Thornley will probably be next.

The **FACTSHEET FIVE** compilation tape is still moving ahead, even though we haven't said much about it lately. Ray Bally has taken the lead on this and is the person to contact if you would like to have your music included. You can get in touch with him at 520 West End Ave. #1B, New York, NY 10024, but since we're trying to get all the music in by September, you'd be better off just phoning him at 212-873-2337 during the evening hours.

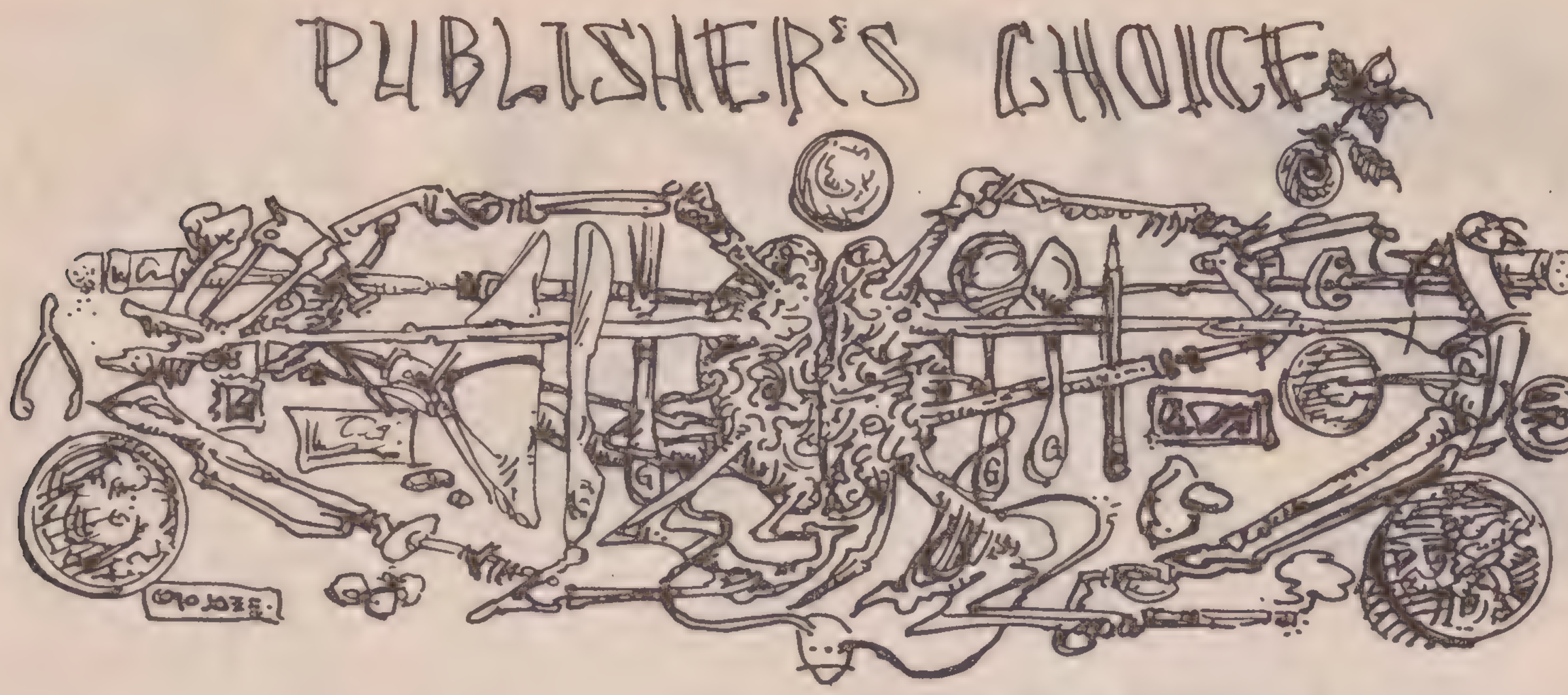
There's a special section on threats to free speech in this issue. It's important. It's the centerfold. Please read it, and if you know anyone else who should see it, please make copies, or order them from me (see the last page of the section). Thanks.

And speaking of free speech, here's a late note about another small press being hassled. **BIMBOX**, a graphic gay punk zine from Toronto, has had a number of copies seized by US Customs for being "pornographic, obscene, and immoral". Fortunately, technology exists to help solve this particular problem. If there's any US publishers with access to a fax machine, a photocopier, and a sense of justice, the publishers of **BIMBOX** might like to hear from you (this is merely an assumption on my part, you understand). Let's see 'em stop electrons from crossing the border.

It's deadline day, and already this morning I've gotten four packages UPS Second-day Air, four packages Federal Express, Six packages Express Mail, two columns uploaded to the computer, and two more submissions faxed. Things, in other words, are coming together in their usual last-minute insanity. Anyhow, this may help explain why stuff which arrives on the day of the deadline do not necessarily get the careful consideration they deserve. Mail early if you possibly can.

Speaking of which, you will note that the deadline for the next issue is 5 days earlier than usual. This is because I will be in Belgium and West Germany September 19-22, lecturing at a pair of fanzine conventions. **Absolutely nothing will be accepted after the deadline for #38!**

PUBLISHER'S CHOICE



AGONIZER Vol. II #2 ($4 from Sue Frank, 2508 Pine St., Philadelphia, PA 19103): This is a fat fanzine for Klingons—yes, Klingons, as in *Star Trek*. ST roleplaying is alive and well, and the Klingons appear to be more active than the Federation—at least they send me better and fatter zines. Here you'll find notes on Klingon society and weaponry, news from various local Klingon groups, photos of members in uniform, and so on. They get into activities like conventions and blood drives, write stirring communiques, and generally seem to be having a lot of fun. There are cartoons, reviews, short essays (sex in the Komerex is one theme in this issue) and much more. The Trek universe long ago escaped from the control of its originators; now it's part of popular culture, and it's popular indeed. (S-124t)

★★★★★

LIZZENGREASY Vol. 1 #6 ($1 *CASH* from Shohosu #8B, Umegaoka 1-56-4, Setegaya-Ku, Tokyo 154, JAPAN): I feel a bit strange recommending this particular issue of the topical fanzine produced by American expatriates in Japan, but it's so well written, so obviously a labor of both love and fun, that I had no choise. Every issue has a topic, and this time around it's "Crime". The major articles are an incomplete survey of Crime in Japan by Greasy Gletcher and a guide to committing crimes (somewhat in the spirit of **STEAL THIS BOOK**) by Alex Clauswitz. There are also book and fanzine reviews and an article on the prevalence of live fish in the Tokyo megalopolis. Yakuza, subway groping and how to ride the trains in Japan for (almost) free are ancillary subjects. (S-16r)

★★★★★

MIDNIGHT GRAFFITI #5 ($6.95 from 13101 Sudan Rd., Poway, CA 92064): A horror fanzine that delves pretty deeply into the twisted mass of humanity, both fictional and otherwise. This issue, for example, runs from Nancy Collins's excellent short story "Rant" to Harlan Ellison's essay on the asinine antics of SF fans. There's a rundown on the findings when Ed Gein's house was searched, a lovely little psychological piece from KW Jeter, and an interview with Ramsey Campbell. They also print news of coming books in the field, and this issue features illustrations excerpted from the new edition of **THE STAND**. Plus if all comes in a great slick cover ably illustrating the "Psychos" theme of this issue. (S-88t)

★★★★★

MONDO 2000 #2 ($7 from PO Box 10171, Berkeley, CA 94709-5171): Big, slick, and on the cutting edge (or a variety of cutting edges), **MONDO 2000** is making this section because their presentations on "Colonizing Cyberspace" in this issue are the best goshwow series on virtual realities I've seen yet, giving an excellent collage overview of the possibilities of this technology. (I could have used a bit more critical thinking and an anticipation of the anti-VR backlash that will no doubt come, but that's probably just nitpicking). Other concerns here include drugs to make you smarter, "Mondo Art & Kultur" (heavy metal to World Entertainment War, Pluderphonics to the Church of the SubGenius), thinkers like Durk Pearson & Sandy Shaw, Tim Leary, and John Lilly, hacking and how to survive in the coming megatech society. There's a great article on the media's hype of computer viruses, an interview with Mark Pauline...and plenty more that can't possibly fit in a short review. It's been a long time between issues, but it was worth the wait. (S-160t)

★★★★★

PUNCTURE #19 ($2.50 from 1592 Union St. #431, San Francisco, CA 94123): While most people weren't watching this stylishly designed magazine has grown into a major source of articles on good new music. So far at least they've managed a slick look without selling out; the Chills are the cover band on this issue. Inside are excerpts from a novel being written by the Mekons, a look at women in the rock underground (featuring a Mudwimmin interview) and a look at what MTV's up to these days. For more normal features, try articles on Fugazi, Luch, the Front, Walkabouts and Controlled Bleeding. They also put in some other arts; this issue includes a review of a Robert Mapplethorpe photo exhibit and a Werner Herzog film. And for the esoterically inclined, check out the section on the music of Zimbabwe. (S-66t)

★★★★★

DAY UND NIGHT.

Zines

!WAS/YOUR MEMORIES ENCLOSED ($1 & 45¢ postage from JanNathan F. Long, PO Box 16393, Columbus, OH 43216): A new collection of collages and other goodies. Besides intense artworks, JanNathan provides correspondence he has had with major corporations about their social policies. Classy but enigmatic. (D-32t)

2600 Vol. 7 #1 ($18/yr from PO Box 752, Middle Island, NY 11953): Probably the premiere issue of phone phreaking and computer hacking in the country. #1 has the start of what will be a continuing story of the government's shutting down various BBS systems for daring to allow people to post messages—not a good sign for the First Amendment. There are also various tips and tricks for those interested in penetrating computer and phone systems, fun and games at the 2600 meting, circuit diagrams and more. (D-48t)

THE 2600 CONNECTION #1 (SASE (?) from 14 Blackburn St., Fairhaven, MA 02719-4334): Not to be confused with the above, this newsletter is aimed at owners of the Atari 2600 game system. The first issue discusses some of the better points of the system, prints ads from folks looking to buy and sell game cartridges, and prints hints for finding the unexpected in several popular games. (S-3)

2-TON SANTA #51 (A couple of stamps from PO Box 1332, Portsmouth, NH 03801): A collection of clippings, rants and oddball poetry, including one amazingly stupid poem reprinted from some white supremacist publication. There's a note on Santa as Satan, outrageous examples of sexist personal ads, and mental health poems from Matt Jasper. (D-8r)

□3SEXES #1 ($1 from Damon Douglass, 947 61st St. #20, Oakland, CA 94608): A zine for writings of "self-expression and personal catharsis". This includes words about the nastiness of some cops, a firsthand account of being raped, and much else. There are a few reviews, plenty of art, bits of hope and dashed dreams. Overall a rather optimistic collection, with the faith that talking about things can help make them better. (S-28)

8 1/2 x 11 #325 (SASE (?) from Alex Swain, 5 Greenview Ave., Princeton, NJ 08540): A single handwritten sheet that chronicles such things as Alex's day, how to tell whether musicians have sold out, and records you must buy. A few scrawled drawings, some name-dropping, and a blank "paragraph to ponder" are also included. Not too much here, really. (S-1)

□90% PENGUINS #1 ($1 from Konnie Kruczek, 5036 Coronado Pkwy. #302, Golden Gate, FL 33999): A new high school underground paper which takes a strong stand in favor of freedom of information. The contents are a mix of silliness, comics, short poetry and, yes, penguins. It will be interesting to see how they make out doing this in a conservative neighborhood. (S-12)

ABRASAX #8 ($4 from James M. Martin, PO Box 1219, Corpus Christi, TX 78403-1219): A magickal and occult journal which draws on a number of interesting esoteric sources. This issue is devoted to "initiation", ranging from Antero Alli's modern rituals to some notes in a more classical mode by the Temple ov Psychick Youth. Santeria, a visit (via the Akashic records) to an Egyptian initiation, and commentary on the magickal community are also included. (S-68)

THE ACE May-June 1990 ($18/yr from PO Box 11201, Shawnee Mission, KS 66207-0201): A newsletter for the shortwave listener who likes to hunt for unauthorized use of the airwaves, broadly defined. The May issue, for example, has everything from details on the FCC's enforcement powers to some notes on TV Marti—the political propaganda station your tax dollars are paying for. (D-32r)

ACE OF RODS #33 ($15/8 issues *CASH* from Acca and Adda, BCM Akademia, London WC1N 3XX, UK): A "Wiccan/Pagan Contacts Magazine" focused on the UK, although at least some of the periodicals they review come from the States. The heart of this is a section of personal and group ads, to enable pagans to get in touch with one another through a confidential forwarding system. I should think someone could do this successfully in the US as well, but so far as I know, this is unique. (D-20r)

□ACROSS THE BOARD Vol. 27 #6 ($5 from The Conference Board, 845 Third Ave., New York, NY 10022): A slick magazine directed to business managers. While some of it is the sort of hack defense of corporate misdeeds that others might be embarrassed by—Elizabeth Whelan's article on "The Facts Behind the Health Scares" is in this category—other pieces are perceptive and interesting. Development via consortia and the importance of "corporate fit" are two of the topics I found worthwhile reading here. (S-64t)

ADULT VIDEO NEWS June-July/Aug. 1990 ($48/yr from 8600 West Chester Pike #300, Upper Darby, PA 19082): A trade journal for the producer and retailer of adult videos, loaded with reviews and carefully posed ads. There's a serious side too, as with the June issue which carries excerpts from the First Amendment defending **FREE SPEECH**, also put out by AVN. July/August is a double summer issue, with more videos—pro, amateur, straight, gay, transsexual—than most of you have ever dreamed existed. (S-102t)

AFRAID Vol. 1 #7-8 ($20/12 issues from 2170 S. Harbor Blvd. #270, Anaheim, CA 92802): A newsletter for the professional horror writer, with everything from writing tips to market news to real news which might inspire those who walk on the nasty side. #8 includes an interview with a specialized dealer explaining what authors can do to make their original manuscripts more collectible (and therefore more lucrative). (S-20t)

AFTER HOURS #7 ($4 from William Raley, 21541 Oakbrook, Mission Viejo, CA 92692-3044): This is the special short-short issue of this zine of fantastic and scary literature. 27 stories in all from a few paragraphs to a few pages, with lovely illustrations by Alfred R. Klosterman. Ann Schwader's "Survivors" is delicious horror while Steve Verge goes for a more restrained late night story in "The Time Traveller". Other contributors include Steve Rasnic Tem, Doni A. Lazenby and David Niall. The interview is with Mort Castle. (S-48t)

AGAINST SLEEP AND NIGHTMARE #2 ($2 [checks to "cash"] from PO Box 3305, Oakland, CA 94609): An intellectual magazine of revolution—political, cultural, economic. They don't like anarchism, Leninism, leftists, liberals, or society—but it's not clear to me what they propose, apart from an undefined revolution. There's obviously been a lot of thought put into this, but all the author's big words and heavy concepts don't convey an alternative, at least not to me. (S-24t)

THE ALARM Vol. 1 #2 ($5/4 issues from 1340 W. Irving Park Rd. #122, Chicago, IL 60613): A relatively new anarchist tabloid which looks at a lot of issues, including what's wrong with the anarchist movement today. Drug legalization gets a heavy emphasis here (with a great back cover poster comparing government to drugs), and there are also articles on census resistance, jury nullification, and other activities which can take place in the here and now. They also avoid the worst of the intra-movement bickering and hairsplitting, which is appreciated. (T-12t)

ALASKA METAPHYSICAL COUNCIL NEWSLETTER May-June 1990 ($12/12 issues from PO Box 93006, Anchorage, AK 99509-3006): A medley of astrology, work for peace, esoteric geopolitics, Odic Force, and other New Age concerns. They provide extensive networking services in their own area, and put out this monthly newsletter to spread it elsewhere. June looks at historic astrology as used by such folks as Teddy Roosevelt. (S-14r)

ALASKA PRO WRESTLING REPORT Vol. 2 #2 (50¢ (?) from Sean P. Ryan, PO Box 84303, Fairbanks, AK 99708-4303): A real small wrestling bulletin that pares down an arena report about the WWF coming to Alaska to a single page. Sean gives a straightforward report of the various matches, and apologizes for his tardiness in sending the zine. (S-3t)

□**ALGORITHM** 1.3-1.4 ($29.95/6 issues from PO Box 29237 Westmount Postal Outlet, 785 Wonderland Rd. South, London, ONT, N6K 1M6, CANADA): This delightful journal is edited by A.K. Dewdney, who some readers will be familiar with from his column in SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN. It's for folks interested in computer fun, from the simplest of programming experiments to complex fractal graphics. They print puzzles and fiction, plus articles on topics from neural nets to computer viruses to "The Volksrobot is Coming". I found myself calling up BASIC on my computer and programming along; certainly this indicates the addictiveness of some of the puzzles here. (S-24t)

THE ALMAGEST #2 ($4/4 issues from Rick Harrison, PO Box 547014, Orlando, FL 32854): "A personalzine with a vengeance", this is a forum for Rick to talk about the things that interest him. That includes reviews of mail order catalogs, a couple of pages on the Tao (he invites discussion) and a circuit diagram for a low-power AM radio transmitter. Artificial languages, computers and anarchy are among the other subjects touched on here. (S-10)

THE ALTERED STATE Vol. 6 #4-Vol. 6 1/2 #1 ($1 & 2 stamps from Tara Orzolek, 106 E. Clearview Ave., State College, PA 16803): A high school underground newspaper that's pretty impressive, thanks to its survival and its good mix of features. There's narrowly-aimed stuff referring to teachers and things like the prom, but there are also serious discussions of free will, humor, collage, poetry and other good stuff. I enjoy it, and expect to keep hearing from its staffers in the future. #1 is a summer issue, with more philosophy and literature and less school. (S-24)

THE ALTERNATIVE NEWSLETTER July 1990 ($2 (?) from James B. Boskey, Seton Hall Law School, 1111 Raymond Blvd., Newark, NJ 07102): A newsletter for folks interested in mediation, arbitration, and other forms of "alternative dispute resolution". There's a lot going on in this field, so much so that mostly this is a guide to other resources: seminars, job openings, books, articles and more. A small window on to a whole world of action and publishing. (S-23t)

□**THE ALTERNATIVE PRESS** Vol. 3 #3 ($6.50/4 issues from Alternative/Atlanta, 957 N. Highland Ave. NE, Atlanta, GA 30307): Alternative/Atlanta is a "Mental Health Union" composed of people with complaints about the mental health system. This issue is full of horror stories from patients who were improperly medicated, poorly treated, and even sexually abused. It also has reports of at least a few victories on the part of those who have fought back. (S-10)

ALTERNATIVES NEWSLETTER Vol. 1 #19 ($2/4 issues from Doyle Adam Seward & Lynn Higgins, 1657 W. Pratt #1-A, Chicago, IL 60626): A mix of pagan and Native American writings. This issue discusses coming out of the broom closet and has a longish article on common misconceptions of American Indian history. (S-8)

ALTERNATIVE TIMES Vol. 1 #4 ($1 from PO Box 7134, Tyler, TX 75711-7134): An alternative community tabloid doing its best to hang on in a conservative part of Texas. They tackle social and political issues from the corporate practices of Ben & Jerry's to the situation in Central America. There's also humor and suggestions on what people can do to make a difference. (T-16)

□**AMAZING EXPERIENCES MAGALETTER** Vol. 1 #1 ($5 from 544 Ygnacio Valley Rd. #A273, PO Box 840, Walnut Creek, CA 94596): A new zine halfway between magazine and newsletter with big plans (including a 350+ page full magazine later this year. Meanwhile the core here is short fiction, including Kevin Anderson's "The Old Man and the Cheery Tree", a Japanese-flavored fantasy tale, and the end of the world :Lunatics" by David Sandner. There's also a reprinted Robert Silverberg short story, convention reports, poetry, artwork, advice on writing, and movie reviews. (S-44t)

□**AMERICAN AIRGUNNER** Vol. 5 #2 ($5.20 from PO Box 711, Comanche, TX 76442): Most of us are at least vaguely familiar with two sorts of airguns: those BB guns we had as kids, and the competition target rifles of Olympic athletes. Well, there's a lot in between, and this is where you can read about the choices. How to articles, equipment reviews, target and hunting tips, and plenty of ads for expensive-looking hardware make up the bulk of this magazine. (S-48t)

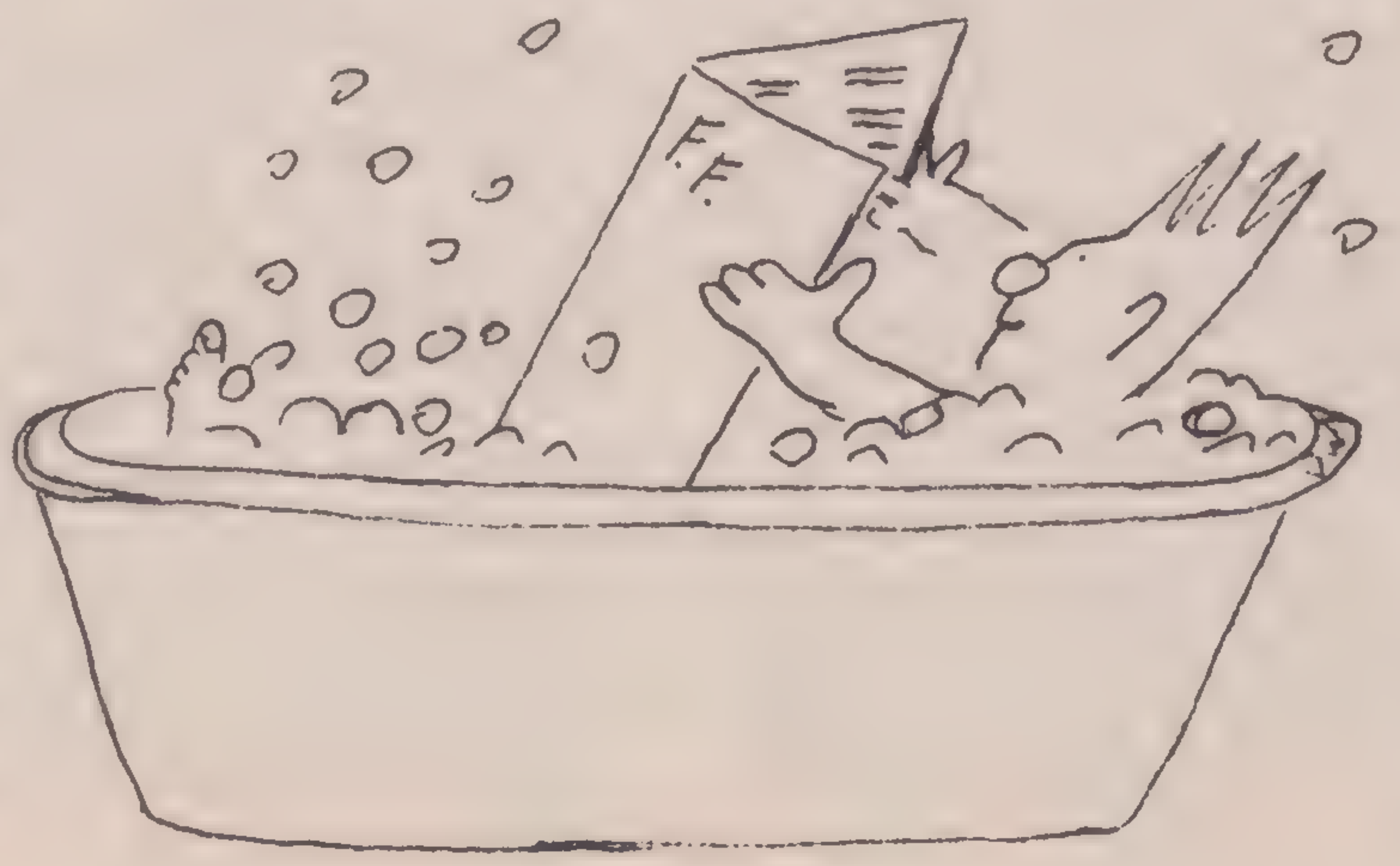
AMERICAN ARTS QUARTERLY Spring/Summer 1990 (On request from the Newington-Cropsey Foundation, PO Box 326, Hastings-on-the-Hudson, NY 10706): These folks are concerned with "the crisis in American culture", said crisis being that art has been taken over by the godless commies and other left-wingers who don't believe in absolute moral standards. They do this with a mix of articles decrying modern public art, the NEA and so on, and ones describing good work being done in more classic modes. (D-36t)

THE AMERICAN GAY ATHEIST Vol. 8 #5-6 ($24/yr from PO Box 66711, Houston, TX 77266-6711): These folks are hardcore atheists (presumably also committed to being gay, but they speak of religious people much more harshly than they do of, say, homophobic people). They're heavy into complete separation of church and state, Gay and Atheist pride, and stirring up complacent people. The latter they seem to do extremely well. (S-10)

THE AMERICAN RATIONALIST July/Aug. 1990 ($1 from PO Box 994, St. Louis, MO 63144): A journal of freethought and atheism as "the alternative to religious superstition". In this issue they suggest scripture to quote to show that the Easter story cannot be presented seriously, consider whether solipsism has a place in the interpretation of quantum mechanics, and go through another round of debunking creationism. Always features lots of book reviews, too. (S-16t)

AMERICAN WINDOW CLEANER #22 ($6 from 27 Oak Creek Rd., El Sobrante, CA 94803): The trade journal for the window-cleaning community—and yes, there is such a community and it's getting more professional all the time. You can read about the latest hardware and solutions, consider carefully advances in safety, learn the basics of the business, or just chuckle at their humorous columns. Maybe you'll even get the itch to go into business for yourself. (S-32t)

AMERICA'S AT OUR DOORSTEP Vol. III #4 ($1 from Dennis W. Brezina, PO Box 411, Churchton, MD 20733): I am really starting to wonder what the bed & breakfast Dennis runs is like. I mean, do you come down the stairs to breakfast, only to be transfixed by the host declaiming "Painting yourself into a corner isn't so bad if it gets you to sit still for awhile", or is he just like that in print? Nature poetry, quotes from other famous people, and an essay on the problems of Earth Day are all here, as well as "Advice-to-the-Embattled". (S-6)



AMP #7 ($1/4 issues from 5525 Claremont #2, Oakland, CA 94618): The all-purpose zine gets into politics with #7 and finds strange bedfellows indeed. This issue presents documents suggesting the JFK was bumped off for starting to de-escalate the Viet Nam war, and that Pan Am 103 was bombed to kill some renegade CIA agents. It's a strange world we live in. (L-4r)

□**ANARCHY IN PARADISE** #1 ($5/4 issues from A.M.P. Ltd., 2233 Kalakaua Ave. B205A #1261, Honolulu, HI 96815): A new tabloid of anarchist thought and outreach. The first issue announces to the public that anarchy is not so bad after all and then reprints a classic SRAF pamphlet on dealing with crime in an anarchist fashion. Looks promising. (T-4t)

ANGLOFILE Vol. 2 #6 ($12/6 issues from PO Box 33515, Decatur, GA 30033): All the news you ever wanted about media in the British Isles. This issue leads off with the intriguing news that a sequel to *The Prisoner* may be in the works. There's also an extensive interview with actress Louise Jameson, who may be most familiar from her work in *Dr. Who*. (S-12t)

ANICHTI POLI #22-23 ($2 or so from PO Box 20037, GR-11810 Athens, GREECE): All-Greek happy hippie zine. They still go in for lots of sexual graphics, psychedelia, and the occasional English catchphrase like "Every Issue An Extra!". The importance of play, the Temple Ov Psychick Youth, Lydia Lunch are a few of the things I glean from the illustrations here. (S-32t)

THE ANIMALS' AGENDA July/Aug. 1990 ($22/yr from PO Box 6809, Syracuse, NY 13217): The design here seems to be settling down again, and the contents are as good as ever. The July/August combined issue has an overview by Merritt Clifton of the effects of energy generation on wildlife (not good, in case you have any doubt) and an article on dealing with wild critters in your basement. They are also an excellent source for all manner of brief news from the animal rights and ecological movements. (S-60t)

□**ANVIL** April/May 1990 (Donation from 545 O'Farrell St. #506, San Francisco, CA 94102): A one-page anarchist newsletter which simply mentions recent activities of the sponsoring group, "Anarchists for Non-Violent, Independent Living". These include cooking for Food Not Bombs, rallying to protest the American Front neo-Nazis, and overturning a urinal on a construction site. (S-1r)

APA-CENTAURI #60 ($5 from Al Stern, 227 Taylor Rd., Paramus, NJ 07652): This is the super 10th anniversary mailing of this general-interest apa, and the members pulled out all the stops. Lists of bests and worsts, a pair of plastic gloves, rubber stamping, artwork, computer zines, even reproductions of famous zines from apas past are all here. They seem to be centered somewhat on politics and comics, but music, SF and philosophy are also important topics. The $5 will open an account and get you into the swing of things. (S-293)

APA-EROS #27-28 ($2 from John & Kathe Burt, 960 SW Jefferson Ave., Corvallis, OR 97333): Interest in this amateur press association devoted to sex and ancillary subjects is apparently picking up; both these issues came out at once due to lots of material. They publish poetry, stories of sexual experiences (some obviously fantasy, others claimed to be true) and serialized stories. There is also some apa chit-chat, comments and support from other members. Others submit cartoons and even a photo or two. All persuasions seem to be welcome. (D-32r)

APATHEIST JOURNAL #7 (SASE from PO Box 2143, Stow, OH 44224): "For those of us who have better things to do than debate the 'eternal questions'", reads the masthead here. The editor praises the values of apathy in a life too short to worry, and occasionally writes on other matters. #7 condemns work as a waste of time and life. (D-1r)

AQUARIAN ALTERNATIVES #172 ($12/12 issues from Aquarian Research, 5620 Morton St., Philadelphia, PA 19144): The main alternatives here are peace and community—and it's quite a comment on our society that those ideas are alternative rather than mainstream. Art Rosenblum spearheads a whole lot of efforts, from distributing a video on intentional communities (which I recommend) to pushing for total abolition of the military. The newsletter details his doings and contacts. (S-8)

ARCANE #4 ($1.25 from Mark Laliberte, 2791 Jos St, Louis, Windsor, ONT, N8T 2M7, CANADA): A collection of comics and short stories from the darker fringes of the human spirit. There's a cute vampire twist here, a post-apocalyptic shootout, and someone who seems to be either going nuts or learning about magic. Pretty unsettling stuff, (S-18)

ARMED CITIZEN NEWS #203 ($10/yr from NAKBA, PO Box 78336, Seattle, WA 98178): The tabloid of the National Association to Keep and Bear Arms, a hardcore group of defenders of the Second Amendment—they think the NRA are selling out, for example. Lots of conservative editiorial matter, news of gun control and anti-gun control politics, and contacts for others in the freedom movement make up this paper. (T-12t)

□**ARM THE SPIRIT** #1 ($1 *CASH* from A.T.S. Publications, Box 475, 253 College St., Toronto, ONT, M5T 1R5, CANADA): A new newsletter "For Revultionary Resistance". What this means is short news bits on revolutionary violence from around the world. While some are interesting stories on news undercovered by the media (like the PG&E pylon destruction on Earth Night), others are simply uncritical reportage of the actions of various thugs who happen to be opposed to those in power. (S-4t)

□**ARMY** Vol. 40 #6 ($2 from Association of the United States Army, 2425 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22201-3385): Yes, there are professional journals for everyone. ARMY is directed towards the soldier who wants to stay on top of new tactics and technology. Features range from a review of a new pack design to notes on the importance of space superiority in land battles to ideas on how to preserve the readiness of the Army in an age of budget and force reductions. Also features lots and lots of ads for machinery to help kill people. (S-80t)

□**ARMY TIMES** Vol. 50 #43 ($48/52 issues from Army Times Publishing Co., Fulfillment Dept., Springfield, VA 22159): This one is more directed to the common soldier than is **ARMY** magazine. They feature more news on things like redeployments on Congressional investigations (did you know about the nuke weapons that might be subject to accidental discharge?). There's also personal ads, real estate, attache cases and insurance plans for soldiers. (T-80t)

ARROWS OF DESIRE #4 (The Usual from S.V. O'Jay, PO Box 29, Hitchin, Herts SG4 9TG, UK): A zine from the science fiction community which strays pretty far from the staid orbit of most such zines. This is the "Hate, Fear and Loathing" issue, with all sorts of mildly gonzo writing, lists of appropriate music and movies, and strange, paranoid short stories. Muck and mire from inside the braincase. (A4-30)

□**ART CALENDAR** June 1990 ($3.50 from PO Box 1040, Great Falls, VA 22066): Most of this is calendar listings directed at the serious visual artist. They cover such topics as grants and fellowships, juried shows, residencies, workshops and awards. There are also several columns of advice on topics like marketing your art or joining with other artists for mutual aid. Looks like a very useful resource. (S-38t)

ART-CORE #7 ($1 from PO Box 49324, Austin, TX 78765): A magazine of collage, poetry, comics and ranting, much of it somewhere between the erotic and the offensive; probably most anyone can find something here to be aghast at. They publish quite a few cutting-edge poets including Weinman, Bennett and Oberc. This issue has an interview with the band Dog Shit Rangers and a free dayglo sticker promoting the zine. (S-24r)

ARTPAPER Vol. 9 #10 ($20/yr from 119 N. 4th St. #303, Minneapolis, MN 55401): An arts tabloid which is constantly trying new things for its non-review, non-calendar portion. This time it's "glosses": invite a dozen writers to submit responses to four images chosen by artists. I personally found it to be a failed experiment—the texts and the pictures in the worst cases have nothing to do with each other, and the whole is not greater than the sum of its parts—but it was an interesting failure. (T-36t)

ART PARTY #2 $20/4 issues from Blue Horizon Publications, PO Box 10118, Minneapolis, MN 55458): A nice mix of artwork (including photography), poetry and short stories. William Dietrich's "The Bridge" is a nasty but well-done downbeat story, while "The Crash", by J. Stanley Phillips, is strangely experimental. Richard Glowacki and Jeannie Piekos are among the fine poets here. Overall a very classy publication. (S-26)

ASH #4 ($1 from David R. Wyder, 121 Gregory Ave. #B-7, Passaic, NJ 07055): There's a wide variety of underground literary work here, including lots of familiar names. Cheryl Townsend contributes hot poetry, Paul Weinman has a booklet here, and there are several lovely full pages of artwork from Joe E. Sara Bellums is a new (to me) poetic voice worth reading, and editor Wyder collects a page of amusing and edifying quotes as well. (S-24)

ASPECTS #5-6 ($2 *CASH* from Steve Polsz, 5507 Regent St., Philadelphia, PA 19143): A zine of metaphysical speculation and New Age flavored thought. They're into building geometrical metaphysical models somewhat reminiscent of Buckminster Fuller's work. Other concerns include English gematria, music as a tool for consciousness change, and personal development. They tie this back into the outside world with essays on topics such as suicide or racism. (S-30)

ASYLUM Vol. 6 #1 ($2.50 from PO Box 6203, Santa Maria, CA 93456): A special issue of this journal of new and far-out literature, devoted to reviews of other items in the field, from postcyberpunk to language poetry. Some of the essays here even begin to make Jake Berry's work seem sensible to me. A good sweep through the field, with plenty of offer for those in need of critical insight. (D-36t)

☐ATHEIST NOTES #1 (Contact Libertarian Alliance, 1 Russell Chambers, The Piazza, Covent Garden, London WX2E 8AA, UK): This has the distinction of being possibly the most positivist and deliberately offensive essay on religion I've ever seen. From the opening "it soon becomes simply incredible that anyone can actually believe this crap" to the closing "It's about time the human race grew up", this one seems not so much intended to convert as to get rid of those who disagree. (A4-2t)

ATROCITY Vol. 14 #6 ($8/12 issues from 2419 Greensburg Pike, Pittsburgh, PA 15221): Humor designed to appeal to MENSA intellects—in other words, very low, from original jokes to the sort of "New Rules of Golf" posters that circulate in photocopy form in offices around the world. Always a mix of things to chuckle at and things to be offended by. (S-14r)

AURORA Vol. 1 #9 ($10/yr from Sunrise Publishing Co., PO Box 368, Cliffside, NC 28024): A mix of short stories and essays which are anchored in rural and traditional life. They're looking for articles, but warn prospective writers that Cliffside is still in the Bible Belt. The sort of thing they're looking for is exemplified by Fred Foldvary's economic article on peace and prosperity in this issue. Recycling, the job market, love lost and found, all are in here somewhere. (T-16t)

THE AUSTRALIAN EXPATRIATE Vol. 1 #5 ($2.50 from 3809 Plaza Dr. #107-307, Oceanside, CA 92056): This one is aimed primarily at Australians living in the US, though I suspect they have an audience among Americans fascinated by Australia as well. it features a medley of news, politics, sports and culture from down under, plus some specialized advice columns, such as the one covering immigration law. Settling down into an interesting reference. (S-48t)

AUTOPSY #9 ($1 from Chris Doolan, 89 Pangeza St., Stafford Heights, Brisbane, QLD, 4053, AUSTRALIA): A zine which covers horror movies, new music, fanzines and other marginal media. It's fascinated by the underside of life but has little patience for such generic nonsense as Elm Street films. #9 dumps on Sinead O'Connor, praises the band spectral incursion, and digs up some really odd movies. (D-4r)

BABY CONNECTION NEWS JOURNAL Vol. 6 #2 ($10/yr from PO Drawer 13320, San Antonio, TX 78213-3320): A resource newspaper for new parents and parents to be. A major emphasis here is on toys and surroundings designed for what infants can see, rather than what grandparents want to see; it seems that an almost op-art world is better for the kids. They feature mainly short essays and personal experiences, with pointers into modern and alternative parenting. (T-12t)

BACK BRAIN RECLUSE #15 ($5 from Anne Marsden, 31468 Calle la Purisima, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675-2547): With the move to A4 size, this British science fiction zine (Anne is the US agent) continues to grow more impressive. The contents are keeping up with the size and design, with good stories from David Hast, Mark Haw and D.F. Lewis. My favorite, though, is the silly "Howard Bolger's Fabulous Space Cade" by David Riley, a delightfully different tale. BBR is not afraid to take chances, and so far they're paying off handsomely. (A4-48t)

BACKWOODS HOME MAGAZINE #4 ($3.50 from PO Box 1624, Ventura, CA 93002): This is turning into a great place to go for ideas, inspiration and information for the person dreaming of independence. Much of this issue is focused on solar power, but there's also a do-it-yourself article on putting up roof beams, some notes on graywater irrigation, a recipe for Tamale Pie, hydraulic rams for pumping water, and more. As good as MOTHER EARTH NEWS *used* to be. (S-56t)

BAG #35-36 (SASE & a personal note from Buddah Worthmore, 28313 58th Ave., Pawpaw, MI 49079): Music and ranting from the proprietor of a record store that still sells real vinyl. #35 has some basic advice for new ziners, giant splinter stories, and the truth about time. #36 tells you which records are absolutely uncollectible and has some bizarre short fiction. (S-4r)

BAHLASTI PAPERS Vol. IV #11-12 ($2.25 [checks to "CASH"] from Kali Lodge, Ordo Templi Orientis, PO Box 15038, New Orleans, LA 70115): Certainly this is one of the most interesting magickal periodicals I receive. Much of the teaching here is done through the vehicle of serialized stories, most of which are loaded with symbolism and have a headspace not unlike that of some of the more outrageous fiction of our time. They also publish rituals, notes on OTO practice, letters and visions. (S-12t)

BALLOT ACCESS NEWS Vol. 6 #2-3 ($6/yr from 3201 Baker St., San Francisco, CA 94123): A watchdog newsletter that keeps track of how easy (or hard) it is for citizens to participate in the democratic process in America. They track things like initiatives and referenda, with particular attention to the process of putting candidates and issues on the ballot. Each issue features detailed state by state reporting of new results. (S-8t)

BEAN ZINE #15-16 ($1 (?) from 1359 Oxford Ave., Kingsville, ONT, N9Y 2S8, CANADA): This one is pretty confusing. The centerpiece in #15 is the interview with a bunch of folks I've never heard of, done slambook style with each trying to top the nonsense of the other. There are bits of skate references and music reviews, collage and pointless stories. A zine that does not explain itself. #16 has a great Charles Atlas chainsaw ad and Ron Reagan looking dorky. (D-24)

BERKELEY SUCKS #3 (25¢ from PO Box 40004, Berkeley, CA 94704): A selection of rants and raves with a punkish feel, this time around focused on religion. It's not insightful analysis, more like wholesale indictments plus alternatives from Satanism to just going nuts. Incudes an interview with Sinister Sisters of Satan and plenty of off the wall graphics. (D-40)

BETWEEN THE LINES Vol. 2 #4 ($10/yr from Sacramento Peace Center, 1917 A 16th St., Sacramento, CA 95814): A cooperative paper, about half of which is pages from individual groups ranging from the DSA to the Unitarian Universalists. In the front section of this issue is an article on eight local peace activists, seeking to understand their point of view and draw some lessons for the movement—a well done bit of reporting. There's a nice community feel to this paper. (T-20t)

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NEW SF ALLIANCE

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BETWEEN THE ROPES #16 ($1 from Adam Horowitz, 336 Harbor Dr., Lido Beach, NY 11561): A relatively small wrestling bulletin which manages some high points nonetheless. In what may turn out to be a controversial move, #16 adds a regular column by "The Juicer", one of the few people I've seen willing to admit liking lots of blood in the ring. (S-8)

BIG FOREHEAD EXPRESS Vol. 1 #4-5 ($8/6 months from Incite Information, PO Box 17406, Arlington, VA 22216): A zine of alternative news analysis and careful exploration of issues which the mainstream press routinely ignores. In #4 they look at the NPA revolutionaries in the Philippines, some past CIA mopery and dopery, and whether Lyndon LaRouche is being unfairly persecuted by the government. #5 gets into the question of Dan Quayle's drug use and the healthcare and S&L crises. Good writing and a good selection of stories. (D-16t)

BIMBOX #2 ("Freeto those who deserve it", but a donation would probably help, from 282 Parliament St. #68, Toronto, ONT, M5A 3A4, CANADA): Just when I think I've seen everything, along comes **BIMBOX** with something new: pop-up genitalia. They set the tone for this outrageous zine of gay punk and underground culture. There are interviews with Nikki Parasite and Alison Bechdel, lesbian photo spreads that look like they were lifted from a men's magazine, and reviews of other zines in the dame genre. Plenty of photos, plenty of smut, and an attitude to end all attitudes. *Warning: US Customs has been seizing this zine at the border; see the Æditorial in this issue of FF.* (HL-80)

□**BIMONTHLY NEWSLETTER** July/Aug. 1990 ($30/6 issues from Judith A. Wells, Route 2 Box 309B, Vilas, NC 28692): Well, this one is written by a Commander Kortron, who seems to be leading people away from a polluted earth and out to see the space beings—or something. Channeling, the merging of the fourth dimension with the third, light and love, New Age communities, they're all here. I rather fear they are serious about this stuff. (S-8)

BLACK EYE #9 ($1.50 from 339 Lafayette #2, New York, NY 10012): This anarchist medley has a serious and revolutionary flavor in this issue, though as it is collated more than edited that could change at any time. Articles cover the resurgence of Hegel, the Chinese Student Movement (with a batch of translated Tiananmen Square documents, and the Poll Tax Riots in the UK. There's a few pages of politically correct comics from Jay Kinney and various manifestoes from sublime to absurd as well. (D-40r)

BLACK HOLE #29 (The Usual (?) from Ian Creasey, Leeds University Union, PO Box 157, Leeds, LS1 1UH, ENGLAND): A science fiction fanzine that issues from The Leeds University Union Science Fiction and Fantasy Society. Ian leads it on a somewhat cantankerous path, not afraid to print cutting reviews of bad books. There is an interview with and a short story from Michael Scott Rohan, a guide to bookshops in Leeds, and a pretty good letter column here. (D-54r)

BLACK PAGE #4-K ($3 *CASH*/6 issues from PO Box 78304, Tucson, AZ 85703): A collection of anarchist writing, poetry, comics and who knows what else. They're not explicitly doctrinaire, and indeed some of the vignettes here could appear in any litmag. Other pieces, such as the dialogue on landlordism and the list of stupid ideas, are more definitely ideological. Looking for more contributions. #K is a special mini-issue, probably available for SASE while supplies last. (S-16t)

BLIP #130-131 ($1 from Joka Press, 106 S. Spruce St., Box 74, Nokomis, IL 62075): The "Brave Little Impossible Publication" has been running since 1958—before your Æditor here was even born. It's still fun, a mix of local news and limericks, baseball museums and correspondence from Nokomis Florida, gumdrops and history. I enjoy it, and hope to see it publish for at least another 32 years. Pig Latin runs amok in the letter column of #131. (D-40t)

□**THE BLOATED TICK** Vol. 4 #6-7 (SASE & 25¢ postage from Paul Dion, 24 Main St., S. Grafton, MA 01560): A mix of art, top video and CD lists, and even a tick of two. There's a report from the Graftographic BBS (508-798-8165), as well as one from the Sixties Revival Tie-Die BBQ in #6. #7 has strange new money, tales of computer woe, and an iconoclastic cryptogram. (S-4)

BLOODGRAVE'S GRIM TIMES #2-3 (SASE from Pope George Ringo II, TESC, Bldg. D Room 106, Olympia, WA 98505): A single-sheet flyer made up of paragraphs and headlines carefully chosen from the newspapers for their incongruity. "IBM WILL USE ADOBE" shows up in #3, along with satanic cults, space and time, death and retirement, and "Now He Could Buy The Control He Craved". (S-1t)

BLUEPRINT FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE Vol. XLIII #10 (Donation from Loyola IHR, Loyola University, Box 12, New Orleans, LA 70118): Essays on peace and social justice issues of the day. #10 is an interesting departure, a translation of an article by Raul Marin originally published in Spanish giving an eyewitness view of the situation in panama since the invasion. There's an awful lot, from political scandal to unmarked graves to skyrocketing unemployment that the media in this country are simply ignoring. (S-8t)

BONE & FLESH #4 ($25/2 issues from Lester Hirsh, PO Box 349, Concord, NH 03302-0349): A large litmag which seems to go in for stories and poems that are disquieting and open-ended. Patricia Flinn's story "Till Human Voices Wake Us..." is perhaps the best example, with B.Z. Niditch's poetry fitting in nicely to this paradigm as well. Provocative stuff. Includes a separate chapbook by Lenore Reiss titled **GENIUS OF DARKNESS: A STUDY OF EDGAR ALLEN POE.** (S-100)

BOOKS ARE EVERYTHING #13 ($24/yr from R.C. & Elwanda Holland, 302 Martin Dr., Richmond, KY 40475): The best zine out there for the collector of paperbacks, whether beginner or seasoned old-timer. They print plenty of checklists (with lots of books pictured and priced) as well as letters and articles on the hobby. You can get involved at any level of fanaticism you choose. (S-72)

□**BORBORYGMUS** Portfolio #1 ($1.05 *in stamps* from Student Activities, Colby College, Waterville, ME 04901): A new litmag that comes as loose sheets—some slick photos, some postcards, some heavy stock foldouts. Contained on these are a mix of photos and stories and poems and drawings, capable of almost infinite juxtapositions. Clay Parker contributes some fine figure studies, Margaret Wickes writes a strange poem toa fly (illustrated with a SEM photo of one), and there are lots of other curious bits. (S-16t)

BREITENBUSH NEWSLETTER Summer 1990 ($4/yr from PO Box 578, Detroit, OR 97342): Breitenbush is a place that does all sorts of New Age programs and seminars and stuff. But I read it for the other parts: they're also a worker-owned co-operative, and there's a renewed energy and lots of planning evident in this issue. It looks like it really is possible to build a community, interact economically with the outside world, provide useful services and have fun all at once. Exciting. (S-36t)

BRICK: ART IS A WEAPON #5 ($2 *CASH* from 151 First Ave. #7, New York, NY 10003): A mix of pictures, collages, photos and text exploring some of the political dimensions of art. There are pictures from the Samizine fanzine art show, an article about the war on drugs being the Vietnam of the 80's, and excerpts from a performance piece, suitably massaged for publications. Comes in an arty painted cover. (D-56r)

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BRIMSTONE Vol. 2 #1 ($5 from 231 Kennedy Dr. #130, Malden, MA 02148): Just in case you've lost your scorecard, this is the Satanist journal which supports the Temple of Set and has plenty of nasty things to say about the Church of Satan (**THE BLACK FLAME** is pretty much the opposite). Between the backbiting there's poetry and reviews, Uncle Setnakt on how to learn, and (for some reason) a list of Victorian cures for masturbation. (S-52)

☐**BULLETPROOF** #2 ($1 from Matt, 50 Market 1A #339, South Portland, ME 04106): This is a zine for snowboarders. A snowboard is sort of a cross between a ski and a skateboard, and coming down a snow-covered hill on one strikes me as moderately deranged. But the folks in the photos here are obviously having a good time. Maybe the killer weed shown in some of the photos has something to do with that. Features some collage as well as ranting on the state of the snowboard industry. (D-20)

☐**BROWBEAT** Giant Baby Attack Issue ($10/4 issues from Valis, 444 Levering Mill Rd., Merion, PA 19066): A zine of wild fiction and stories, with some pieces being quite disturbing. The deadpan opening attack from the 39-year-old paperboy, for instance, will stick in my mind for a long while. Check out also the rant on changing the world and the story of "The Separation". Broken glass writing. (S-40t)

THE BUFFALOON NEWSLETTER Vol. IV #II ($1.25 *Cash/stamps* from Raisin Blowme, 31 W. Northrup Pl., Buffalo, NY 14214): A collection of rants, reviews, and art. The latter is primarily pix of famous folks chopped out of other sources and enhanced by the addition of speech balloons, mostly sarcastic. On the review front, we've got bathroom reading (books to take in small doses, that is), movies, and zines, as well as "Nonambient Audio". Raisin also writes about the importance of free speech and invites you to send your own epitaph for reprinting here. (HL-24)

☐**BUMP** Vol. 1 #6 ($1.50 from 6964 W. 84th St., Minneapolis, MN 55438): "Pro Wrestling's Hottest Weekly", this is a relatively new entrant on the wrestling bulletin scene. Fortunately, they're already pretty distinctive, thanks to concentrating on essays and opinion rather than news. The news is still there, but pieces like "The Reason Behind The Wrestler" by Editor Kris Pope in #6 help tie it all together. (S-4t)

BVI CENTRAL #9-5 ($1 from J. LeRoy, PO Box 4843, East Lansing, MI 48826-4843): A journal of social satire, college, and J.'s life—which overlap, of course, as in his hilarious tales of trying to do the paperwork to graduate from college in #9-5. Recycling, mass transit, and the horrid political life of GHWB all play a part here. (D-20t)

BVI GREAT LAKES #10 ($1 from Ann LeRoy, PO Box 4843, East Lansing, MI 48826-4843): Ann writes about her life over a background of interesting collages. This is intensely personal stuff, an exploration on paper of human relationships between a shifting cast of people. I'm impressed by how bare she lays things here. (S-16t)

BVI SPECIAL COLLECTIONS III ($1 from J. LeRoy, PO Box 4843, East Lansing, MI 48826-4843): This is a collection of three essays which capture some of the best of J.'s writing, First off is his "On Death and Burial", a strong reaction to the senseless death of a close friend. Next comes an essay on pornography and why, at least as constituted in current American Society, it is a bad thing. He closes the zine with a Randall Cantern story which is even more bizarre than most of the Cantern political rants. (D-20t)

☐**BYOD** #1 ("send us a check and tell us how many issues you think the check is worth" from Jay Ferm and Jonathan Tweet, 825 42nd St., Rock Island, IL 61201): A new zine of essays that meanders around quite a bit. The lead article proposes that we should be cultivating the Arabs as our next enemy now that Communism is falling out of favor for this purpose. There are thoughts on the obsolescence of the human body, exhortations to have fun, and notes on human nature. (HL-8)

CAAC NEWS March-June 1990 ($1 (?) from Central America Action Committee, PO Box 7454, Olympia, WA 98507): I haven't seen this one for a while, but the March issue is a good roundup of all the news from the region. There are pieces on Puerto Rico, Guatemala, Panama, El Salvador, Nicaragua and more. There's a generally left slant, but there's plenty of solid news here. The June issue has a history of repression in Puerto Rico and notes on the Salvadoran coffee boycott.(S-24t)

☐**THE CACANADADADA REVIEW** #1 ($3.50 from PO Box 1283, Port Angeles, WA 98362): A humorous literary zine which seems as likely to print your cover letter as your poetry. There's a review of the latest sandwich from McDonalds, an essay about not writing, a poetic poke at Samuel Beckett, and a curmudgeonly review of **ALL I REALLY NEED TO KNOW I LEARNED IN KINDERGARTEN**. Andre Bey-Hansen's short "The Strange and Terrible Fate of Zortan" is an interstellar conquest story with a new twist. (D-46t)

☐**CACOPHONY** #27 ($4.50 from C. Darren Butler, PO Box 1347, Orem, UT 84059-1347): A litmag that's a very mixed bag. This issue features some short stories of the fantastic, a longish interview with a witch, notes on computer crimne, and a bunch of reviews. "For Squirming Minds" is the subtitle, and it's fairly apt; a lot of the writing seems calculated to distress at least a few people. (D-60t)

☐**CADUCEUS** Winter 1990 ($22/yr from Caduceus USA c/o Paul Cohen, RFD 1, Box 347A, Jamaica, VT 05343): A British journal of holistic healing which is just starting to be distributed in the States. It's got a good mix of traditional, spiritual and medial articles, with contributors ranging from the Dalai Lama to a Russian clairvoyant healer to various medical doctors. Topics include faith, immunology, qigong, and ME (which seems to be the British term for Chronic Fatigue Syyndrome). (A4-48t)

CAFE ARMAGEDDON Antho '90 ($3 or so from 2008 Oxford, Austin, TX 78704): A strong collection of work from the Austin area. The gems here include poetry from David Jewell, a strange but affecting store by R. Rudy Higgens-Evenson, and Wayne Alan Brenner's profile of the Seemen. Check out also the lyrics and drawing for "Cowboy Buddha". Good stuff, attractively put together and comb-bound. (S-36t)

☐**THE CALQUARIUM** Vol. XXXII #8-10 ($20/yr from Calgary Aquarium Society, PO Box 6115,,Sta. D, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2C7, CANADA; trades with other aquarium/herptile periodicals only): A magazine for people who keep fish, put out by a bunch of them up in Canada. Most of the info here is pretty portable; one of the more popular topics is how to get new and different species to spawn successfully. There are also hardware notes, bits of history of the CAS, and news on local events. A fine hobbyzine. (S-36)

CAMPUS REVIEW Vol. 6 #5 ($5/yr from 336 S. Clinton #16, Iowa City, IA 52240): Conservative college views from the heartland. If you can look past their unfortunate tendency to make fun of their ideological opponents, there is some decent argument here, and a commitment to some excellent ideals of free speech and free market. However, they're making a career out of being obnoxious about it, enough so to try the beliefs of those who are only lukewarm about the First Amendment. Gorbymania, flagburning antics, the NEA controversy and a (probably unauthorized) Bart Simpson poster grace this issue. (S-20t)

CAN WE NEWSLETTER #42-43 (Donation from PO Box 2152, Coeur d'Alene, IA 83814-1913): An anti-nuke newsletter that opposes most everything. In #42 they get upset about the irradiation of topazes to turn them blue, as well as more serious issues like the health hazards of living downwind from one of the nuclear reservations dotting the landscape. (L-2)

CAPRA #84 ($3 sample from Marc C. Reed, PO Box 18293,

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Milwaukee, WI 53218): A fat apa for folks who want to discuss movies—from the researched seriousness of Ford Rafferty's essays to the rapid-fire reviews of Joan Marie Verba to wacky writing from Anni Ackner. This is a place for participation and it gets it—in fact, the roster is full now, but if you're a film fanatic and want to join in, Marc can tell you how to get on the waiting list. (S-158)

THE CARING CONNECTION Vol. 6 #6 (Sample for SASE from Phyllis A. Burns, 3060 Bridge St. #342, Brighton, CO 80601): A resource newsletter for caregivers to the handicapped. They do short bits on a variety of medical, legal and social subjects. #6, for example, looks at networks fro chronic pain sufferers and has a long list of groups involved with service dogs. They also carry short poetry and essays. (S-6)

THE CAROLINA CRITIC Jan.-May 1990 ($20/yr from 01 Steele Bldg. CB #5100, UNC Chapel Hill, NC 27599): A student newspaper dedicated to helping "challenge the left-wing collectivist ideas that pervade our universities". Who else would give sympathetic interviews to Ed Meese and Jesse Helms? They pick on most everything liberals believe in (strong anti-feminist blasts characterize the January issue) and assert society's right to regulate itself. (S-24t)

CARTOON MARKETS May-July 1990 ($3 from Loyal Pallady, 90 W. Winnipeg Ave. #1, St. Paul, MN 55117-5428): A market newsletter for cartoonists and gag writers, written at least in part cooperatively by its subscribers. There is continuing discussion of which markets are good and which are bad, how to submit your work, and tricks of the trade. (S-10)

□CASA REAL NEWSLETTER Vol. 1 #1-2 (On Request from Antonio R. Garcez, 1650 Galisteo St., Santa Fe, NM 87501): The marketing director at the Casa Real Health Care Center says he'll be happy to send copies to any FF reader. This is a newsletter about the Center, with notes on family meetings, volunteers, residents and employees of the month, and so on. They also carry a bit of health care news and an advice column for pets. (L-2t)

CATALYST Vol. 2 ($1 (?) from 511 E. Mariposa #16, Phoenix, AZ 85012): A relatively new arts magazine for the Phoenix area, from the People's Art Movement—which has no qualifications for membership other than wanting to join. They print art and poetry from their members, together with descriptions of other projects. The philosophy of selection used (not rejecting anything) is along the lines of that of the mail art network. (HL-32t)

CATHEDRAL OF INSANITY #13 ($2 from Julie Luce, 1216 W. Ivesbrook, Lancaster, CA 93534): An alternative litmag bound with colorful yarn and containing stories and poems that don't quite fit anywhere else. #13 includes John Steadman's "The Dog That Ate Well", a dog-bites-man story with a difference, and a Divine-inspired playlet by B.Z. Niditch. (D-18r)

CAVEAT EMPTOR #22 ($5 from Cross-Country Communications, PO Box 4533, Metuchen, NJ 08840-4533): A journal or UFOs and related matters which doesn't mind treading on a few toes in the field. This issue features a delightful article on Ufology from John Keel (who says most people involved are dupes and kooks), an interview with European researcher Jenny Randles, and notes on the legends surrounding the Yeti. A refreshing point of view on a field full of self-important twits. (S-40t)

CAVES AND CUCUMBERS #4 ($2/yr from 8710 Hargrave St., Philadelphia, PA 19152-2123): A medley of short reviews and essays. There's a trip through the standard K-Mart (it was scary how exactly I knew what was being described), some environmentalism, and a music review. Other bits include a Glovemen comic strip and a nasty suicidal short story. (D-12r)

CENSORSHIP NEWS #35 ($25/yr from NCAC, 2 W. 64th St., New York, NY 10023): Newsletter of the National Coalition Against Censorship, a group which tracks and tries to help in all manner of free speech cases. From satellite TV to pressures on school reading books by Fundamentalist parents to flag burning, it's all here. An important educational tool. (S-8)

CERC NEWSLETTER July 1990 ($10/yr from PO Box 81, Floyd, VA 24091): There's been a change of name but not of direction here; the Community Education & Resource Center is still a linking point for all sorts of alternative folks in the Floyd area. This issue features a nice piece on a commodities exchange, an open mike night, and of course a calendar of events. Everything from nutrition to spirituality pops up inside. (S-14)

□CES NEWSLETTER June-July 1990 ($1 (?) from Church of the Eternal Source, PO Box 7091, Burbank, CA 91510-7091): A pagan newsletter for those who feel an affinity with ancient Egypt and its pantheons. There are discussions of modern festivals, the difference between good cults and bad cults, and more. The June issue has a film review explaining why a horribly inaccurate movie led to a religious experience. (S-6t)

CFRA BULLETIN #85 ($1 from East 7609 Marietta, Spokane, WA 99212): In the world of the small press, this one is way off on the edges. It's the newsletter of the College Football Researchers Association, a group of folks who spend their time trying to straighten out the records of games past and settle such questions as which records are likely never to be broken. Plenty of statistics, speculations, and even a few arguments here. (S-20r)

□CHANGE #218 (Sample on request from 1825 N. Lake Shore Dr., Chapel Hill, NC 27514): This is the newsletter of the Synergetic Society, a group working to publicize a new mode of thought that makes its practitioners naturally follow the Golden Rule. While they have some of the symptoms of crankiness, there does seem to be a community of scholars here, which bodes well for their intelligibility. It'll require a few issues for anyone to get a handle on what they're all about, though. (S-22)

THE CHAOS NETWORK Vol. 2 #3 ($49/4 issues from People Technologies, 200 Lincoln Sq., PO Box 4007, Urbana, IL 61801): These folks are combining chaos theory with older insights in organizational development (OD) to produce strategies for businesses to better deal with change. There are quite a few ideas lurking here, and notes on where to find more. (S-12t)

□CHEAP RELIEF Vol. 3 #6 ($48/yr from PO Box 11501, Washington, DC 20008-0701): "The Newsletter that pays off for Professional Communicators", this is aimed at folks in fields like advertising and publicity. Editor Jean Lawrence chats about fun ad campaigns, gives advice on making an impact at trade shows, and lists interesting businesses like one that will remake your image if you're a polluter. Interesting but probably a bit pricey for most small publishers. (S-4)

□CHICKEN LITTLE #19-21 ($2 from Mick Cusimano, PO Box 2565, Harvard Sq. Sta,

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Cambridge, MA 02238): A weekly litzine produced by folks at the Naked City Coffeehouse. It features a medley of prose, short interviews, poetry, graphics, and cartoons. A lot of it is support for the underclass and the homeless, attacks on the rich, and so on. Assembled (apparently) by committee, it's not cohesive, but it is a fun and raw document. (HL-28)

CHOKEHOLD #22-23 ($1 from Lance LeVine, 3113 S. Parnell, Chicago, IL 60616): A brash and outspoken wrestling bulletin. Among other things, Lance isn't shy about pounding on other bulletin editors who he thinks are crooks, dopes, or both, which always leads to fireworks. Plenty of humor and reader letters mix with serious match results and outrageous essays. His satirical leanings have landed him in hot water with other bulletin editors, but he doesn't seem to mind. (S-10)

CHRISTIAN*NEW AGE QUARTERLY Vol. 2 #3 ($2.50 from Bethsheva's Concern, PO Box 276, Clifton, NJ 07011-0276): A publication which is searching for a synthesis between Christian and New Age views. This particular issue is a bit unfocused, a gathering of energies before renewed investigation. Tends to be a bit more New Age than Christian, perhaps, but it fair all around and usually rather philosophically intriguing. (HL-16)

CHRISTIAN VISION July 1990 ($5/4 issues from Skysong Press, RR1 Washago, ONT, L0K 2B0, CANADA): A market newsletter for Christian writers. Besides listing places which are willing to look at Christian stories and poems, they print letters and reviews and administer a short story award. D-16t)

COALITION FOR PRISONERS' RIGHTS NEWSLETTER Vol. 15 #4-6 (Donation from PO Box 1911, Santa Fe, NM 87504): A selection of letters from the inside and essays from the outside on the conditions in our prisons. They continuously point out abuses of justice, and seem determined to point towards a fairer society no matter how few people are listening. (HL-8)

COLTSFOOT Vol. XI #3 ($2 from James Troy, Box 313A, Shipman, WV 22971): A guide to wild plants and their manifold uses in health and food. #3 leads off with a quick survey of many different things you can make team from. Later there is a recipe for stir-fryed cattails and an article on the lore and uses of the lowly cabbage. Well-referenced and written. (D-20r)

COLUMBIANA Vol. 4 #1 ($2.50 from Chesaw Route Box 83-F, oroville, WA 98844): A magazine of environmental thinking and culture from the Pacific Northwest. This issue is more culturally oriented than usual, with pages on a number of poets, actors and artists in the Seattle area. But they also get into Redwood Summer, report on an interesting conference on the possibility of Green Cities, and look at a new proposal for keeping the Northern Cascades "forever wild". (S-50t)

COMBAT SPORTS #121 ($2 from PO Box 651, Gracie Sta., New York, NY 10028-0011): A bimonthly journal of wrestling and other entertainment sports such as roller derby. #121 has short notes on wrestling in countries we rarely hear any such news from, including New Zealand and South Africa. There are also columns on a batch of different wrestling and banked track promotions. They also sell videos, old wrestling magazines, and other goodies. (S-16)

COMBAT SPORTSGRAM Vol. 1 #35-40 ($15/26 issues from PO Box 651, Gracie Sta., New York, NY 10028-0011): A weekly roundup of the latest news and gossip from the pro wrestling world, presented on a single no-frills sheet. They report match results without additional info, pass on plenty of news about who's going to do what in which promotion, and so on. #40 carried the first report I saw about Fred Blassie's heart attack. (S-1)

COMMUNITY May-July 1990 (Donation from PO Box 131, Albany, NY 12201): The newsletter of out local Lesbian & Gay Community Center, this one tackles a mix of local issues and wider ones. The July issue has a travel review of Toronto (not particularly recommended for those of us closer to New York, Boston and Montreal) and an article on why the word "lesbian" is still useful and needed even though some consider "gay" to be inclusive. (S-8t)

☐**COMMUNITY ECONOMICS** #20 (Donation from ICE, 151 Montague City Rd., Greenfield, MA 01301): The Institute for Community Economics has done a lot to popularize and refine the Community Land Trust, a type of financing which keeps homes affordable for the future. Their newsletter discusses lots of programs in such areas as sweat equity, low-cost loans, trust funds and other ways to help this happen. Worth looking into if you think owning your own home in a socially responsible way is only a dream. (S-16t)

COMPOST NEWSLETTER Litha 1990 ($2 [*NO CASH*] from Valerie Walker [note "for CNL" on check], 729 5th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94118): A high-tech and in-your-face pagan zine. In this issue Leah Samul tackles the New Age and decides that enlightenment is more likely to be found in the neighborhood bar, while Valerie Walker talks about being pagan and proud. There is material on the Faery tradition, a look at Mapplethorpe's work in Cincinnati, and Brent Gilman discussing Earth First! and bombs. (HL-20t)

THE CONNECTION #166 ($2.50 from Erwin S. Strauss, PO Box 3433, Fairfax, VA 22038): Lots of pages of fine print arguing the issues of the day (and other days, for that matter): Libertarianism, freedom, cryonics, work, sex, quantum mechanics, investing, and much more. The level of rational discourse (as opposed to name-calling) seems to be on the upswing in TC again, which I think is good news; if you want an intellectual workout, dip into a copy. (D-88t)

CONTACT! 5/7/90-7/5/90 ($15/yr from Humanist Fellowship of San Diego, PO Box 87662, San Diego, CA 92138): You never know what you'll find in this Humanist newsletter. Tucked away at the bottom of one page of the May issue is a quote from **PRINCIPIA DISCORDIA**. In the back is some legal gobbledegook designed to prove the IRS is illegally collecting taxes. In between we have events for the coming month, famous Humanists, and strange thoughts from the world of religion. July ranges from a dismissal of deep ecology to the relationship between Humanism and gun ownership. (S-7t)

CONTENTIONS June 1990 ($1 (?) from Committee for the Free World, 211 E. 51 St., New York, NY 10022): A newsletter devoted to the idea that leftists, socialists and liberals are, by and large, idiots. They combine a sarcastic style with great self-assurance that the communist debacle is finally over and all that remains to do is to get the American left to Go Away. Fun reading, but I have trouble believing it. (S-8t)

CONVERGING PATHS Summer 1990 ($4 from PO Box 63, Mt. Horeb, WI 53572): A pagan zine concerned with bringing together folks from many traditions, as well as providing information about the Craft. This issue has some notes on herbalism and an interesting article on the importance of the Wiccan Rede. There are notes from the news media, a continued article about the Lascaux cave paintings, and reviews of other works as well. (S-32r)

☐**CONVICTIONS** Vol. 1 #1 ($8 prisoners/$10 non-prisoners per year from PO Box 1749, Corvallis, OR 97339-1749): An ambitious new magazine "By Prisoners For Prisoners And Their People". It features artwork, poetry, short fiction, and essays. There's a legal column, free pen-pal listings, and prison news from around the world. Some of the writing is quite good, and the art shows that distinctive prison style. I hope they can keep it up. (S-48t)

COOKED Vol. 2 #15 (SASE from Todd Kristel, Box 479, 3650 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, PA 19104): You never know what's coming next in this single-sheet page of "half-baked ideas". #15 is reviews, mainly of **THE BEAT** and the film *Triumph of the Spirit*. (S-2)

THE COOL TRAVELER NEWSLETTER Vol. 3 #2-3 ($10/4 issues from PO Box 11975, Philadelphia, PA 19145): #2 is a mini-issue, smaller than usual, with a couple of pieces of travel writing from real people. Glen Humphrey reports on a scientific meeting in the USSR, while Walden Randall has a poetic piece on a visit to Beijing. #3 is back to full size, with a walking tour of Brooklyn, pieces on Greece and China, and such flotsam as a Paris Metro schedule and a Czech theater program. Looking for more cool travelers who can write. (HS-10/HS-40)

COOPERATIVES AND COMMUNITY MTM #61-62 ($5 to start an account; contact Bill Holden, 4131 Larwin Ave., Cypress, CA 90630): Maybe it's just me, but I run into a lot of people longing for alternative communities these days. An increasing number of us are participating in this open forum, largely discussing the shape of a world where community is more important, but increasingly moving towards actual practice. I'm convinced that the intentional community is one of the waves of the future, and this is a good place to catch that wave. (D-36r)

☐**COSLOID** ($3 from Johnny Edelstein, RD #1 Box 138C, Stonington, CT 06378): A dark little zine of graphics, comics and collage. It's hard to pull any particular meaning out of this, though it does seem to be pretty depressed in places. Beer drinking scum, the booger police, and fractured letters are included, along with a full page of stickers. (S-16)

COUNTERATTACK! #10 ($1 from Refuse & Resist!, 305 Madison Ave. #1166, New York, NY 10165): R&R! is a group of activists, generally leftist, opposed to the right-wing swing in the country today. They organize protests of things like NEA defunding, censorship, flag protection laws, and Operation Rescue. This newsletter is composed of reports from R&R groups around the country, and presents a mosaic of folks willing to break the law to make a point. (S-20)

COUNTER INFORMATION #27 (Donation from Pigeonhole CI, c/o 11 Forth St., Edinburgh, UK): This anarchist revolutionary periodical has been a prime source of information about Poll Tax resistance in Scotland—where up to 50% of the adults in some areas have refused to pay, and numerous sheriffs have been chased off when attempting to seize property. In addition to Poll Tax news, #27 looks at the Strangeways prison uprising and has a communique from Edinburgh Women Against Pornography. (A4-4t)

THE COVENTRY READER Vol. 3 #2 (65¢ postage from PO Box 18418, Cleveland Heights, OH 44118): This tabloid litmag is mainly poetry, but they work in some prose work and photography as well. Harald Wyndham's "Graveyards of the Iron Horse" examines both railroad history and "the terrible cost of what we call prosperity". Belinda Subraman contributes a poem on South African repression, while Lewis LaCook examines the experimental work of Christopher Franke. (T-20t)

CREATION/EVOLUTION #26 ($3 from 7 Harwood Dr., PO Box 146, Amherst, NY 14226-0146): A journal for serious debate between scientific creationists and proponents of evolutionary theory, though often it seems a bit harsher to the former than the latter. Of interest in this issue is an article explaining some of the pitfalls to drawing up family trees based on protein analyses, and a continuing exchange between Jim Lippard and Walter Brown. (D-56t)

□**CROOKED SMILE CRACKED** LIPS (75¢ from Claire, 16339 Steubner Airline #205, Spring, TX 77379): A collection of personal writings and poetry. Claire is seventeen, going through apparently tough times. There is an awful lot of tension wrapped up in these pages, essays about standing in the rain or boiling over with emotion while waitressing. Very blunt. (D-16)

□**CROSS CURRENTS** #3 ($1 from Vern, 2316 Delaware Ave. #102, Buffalo, NY 14216): A relatively new forum for "the gender dysphoric community of the Buffalo area"—that's transvestite, transsexual, transgendered if you're not up on the current vocabulary. It's mostly support and contact information, with lists of upcoming events, notes on where to contact other similar groups, and so on. A fair amount of space is also devoted to organizing the nascent group. (HL-8t)

□**CRUD BOMB** #1 ($1 from Nick Forte, 71 Hubbs Rd., Ballston Lake, NY 12019): Nick takes a new and fun tack in this entry to the horror movie zine market. He dumps on recent stuff and folks like Linnea Quigley to praise the best stuff ever made: Japanese monster movies. All the Godzillas, Monster Zeros and Bigfoots (Bigfeet?) you could ever want are in here, along with trivia, other movies, and zine reviews. (S-20)

CULTURAL DEMOCRACY #39 ($3 from Alliance for Cultural Democracy, PO Box 7591, Minneapolis, MN 55407): A grassroots look at and across cultures, emphasizing the culture of the people rather than that of the Establishment. #39 has several pieces on community radio, including more information on WTRA out in Springfield, which the FCC is trying to shut down. Don Fitz contributes an amusing piece on the invasion of North Carolina to stop the tobacco trade too. (S-20t)

□**CULTURAL NOTES** #17-19 (Contact Libertarian Alliance, 1 Russell Chambers, The Piazza, Covent Gardens, London, WC2E 8AA, ENGLAND): Three essays which take issue with the Marxist conception of "bourgeois culture". The first two are reprinted from a book of critical essays written by Henry Hazlitt almost 60 years ago, while the last considers TV pop culture. All three end up denying that capitalism somehow perverts culture—as one would expect from Libertarians. (A4-2t)

CULTURAL SURVIVAL QUARTERLY Vol. 14 #3 ($25/yr from 11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge, MA 02138): These folks are interested in preserving native cultures around the world in the face of war and overdevelopment. This is a special issue devoted mainly to a look at modern Cambodia. They write of everything from language and literature and music to the stark realities of the political situation there. (S-88t)

CULTWATCH RESPONSE Vol. 2 #4-5 ($2 from PO Box 1842, Colorado Springs, CO 80901-1842): A newsletter by Wiccans for law enforcement personnel that tries to sort out fact from myth and fiction when it comes to ritual crime. They do an excellent job of laying out facts and documenting both the truth of Wicca and the ludicrous exaggerations of the professional cult-scaremongers. #5 reports on several presentations by people in the satanic crime industry, and suggests ways in which they could be more balanced. (HL-12r)

CURIOS THING #6 (Contact A1 Waste Paper Co. Ltd., 71, Lambeth Walk, London SE11, ENGLAND): This being a mail art zine, trade would perhaps work better than money for procuring a copy. This issue in question is mainly devoted to explaining the purposes and inventions behind the Pretentious Drivel Strike, and takes some downright nasty swipes at the Art Strike people. There's a very fine picture of them inflating a hot air balloon, for example. (M-16)

□**CURRENT** #4 (Donation from PO Box 189, Pacific, MO 63069): A freewheeling local Earth First! tabloid. There's a strong anarchist presence here, reflected in the tone of many outreach articles. Besides monkeywrenching and demonstration reports, they get into the benefits of hemp, sabotage, alliances with timber workers, and much else. Very *alive* feeling. (T-12t)

CURRENTS Vol. 1 #4 ($5 from PO Box 962, Riverdale, MD 20737): A quarterly "Journal of Unificationist Thought and Culture"—the Unification Church being, for those of you used to unofficial names, the followers of Rev. Moon. It's detailed and academic, generally supportive of the Church while remaining an unofficial document. Prospects in Eastern Europe and in the US with the breakup of Communism are the main topic of this issue. (S-32t)

□**THE CURSOR** Mar.-July 1990 ($2 from W.A.C., 5360 Sideburn, Fairfax, VA 22032-3714): The nifty-looking newsletter of the Washington Area Commodore User Group, a bunch of computer people helping one another out. They discuss all Commodore machines from the C64 to the Amiga 3000, and even have a section on MS-DOS programs. Even if you're out of the area, this might be worth looking at; they make their disks of new programs available by mail for quite reasonable prices. (S-24t)

DARK LILY #10 ($4 *CASH* from BCM Box 3406, London WC1N 3XX, UK): A magazine of Satanism and the Left Hand Path generally. This issue leads off with a warning about the Temple of Set, which embodies the sort of authority worship and showman trappings which the genuine Satanist (as seen by the writers here) abhors. There is discussion of Satanism as a selfish faith, notes on whether the name is outdated, and a large selection of ads for other interesting things to read. Sane and serious. (D-28)

DECALCOMANIA #75 ($1 from Mark Strickert, 3852 N. Oconto, Chicago, IL 60634): A zine for people interested in promotional items from broadcast media. The focus is on radio station stickers, but a substantial number of folks also trade cassette tapes of on-the-air stuff, and other oddball items get included from time to time. They even have face to face get togethers to talk about this stuff. (S-8r)

DECENTRALIZE! NEWSLETTER UPDATE June 1990 ($1 from Carol Moore, PO Box 1608, Washington, DC 20013): A quick update on Carol's continued work to popularize the concept of decentralism as a cure for a lot of society's ills. It's got various clippings on secession and local government, news of forthcoming conferences, and

a reader survey to help determine what publications are most feasible and needed. (S-4)

THE DEFENSE MONITOR Vol. XIX #3-4 ($1 from CDI, 1500 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20005): These people tackle the defense establishment on its own terms to argue for massive changes in US military strategy. #3, for example, focuses on the role of the Navy in a changing world and comes to such conclusions as "A strong U.S. economy is more effective in influencing world events than a large, costly navy. Maintaining a cold war Navy to conduct gunboat diplomacy weakens the U.S. economy." (S-8t)

DEMETER'S EMERALD Litha 1990 ($4 from PO Box 612603, South Lake Tahoe, CA 95761): A pagan zine which emphasizes articles on childbirth and parenting, though they branch out to other things as well. Living in a wider community is another topic of current interest. The Litha issue has an article on herbs for birth and pregnancy, thoughts on cartoons and their effects on children, a resource list for pagan parents, and more. (D-40r)

DE NAR #45 (IRCs from Postbus 104, 1210 Brussel 21, BELGIUM): A roundup of small press, alternative media and social action, all in Dutch. Anti-Shell protests, new zines, and events are featured in #45. Regular and active. (D-12r)

DIARIST'S JOURNAL #31 ($2.50 from 102 W. Water St., Lansford, PA 18232): Everything you could ever want to read from and about diaries. Perhaps the most charming piece in #31 is from Raymond Lee Zager, who gives a diary-based account of getting fascinated by Pepys' diary. Lots of just plain folks here, as well as book reviews and articles which explore the significance of our drive towards record-keeping. (T-20t)

DICK CLARK #13 (Stamps from Katrina Kelly, PO Box 557, Earlville, NY 13332): Another of the endless series of names for this zine—and remember, don't put the zine name on the envelope. Inside it's mainly people with lists of what they want for Katrina's birthday. There is also a page of graffiti, your train on Bugs, and other bizarre tidbits. Charming, I guess. (S-10)

DIE FAT PIGGY DIE! #5-7 (50¢ & Age Statement from Decadence Comix, PO Box 134, Waynesville, MO 65583): A collection of humor and reprints. #5 has a personal message from GG Allin as well as an essay on the benefits and practice of flirting. #6 is almost entirely composed of ethnic jokes, zillions of them, mostly in very poor taste. (D-12r)

DISCOMBOBULATION #5 ($1.50 from Discombobulated Productions, PO Box 2391, Montgomery, AL 36102-2391): A collection of rants, essays, artwork, collages and more, all crammed willy-nilly into their pages. There are several pro-freedom essays, including ones on flagburning and the NEA. Zsa Zsa gets collages there's a redneck diary, a semi-porn short story, and more. (HL-32)

DON-O-SAUR #58 ($2 or The Usual from Don C. Thompson, 3735 W. 81st Pl., Westminster, CO 80030-3919): A SF fanzine that leads off with a couple of good solid essays from Don. Of special note in this issue is his account of the steps he used to quit drinking and smoking some years ago, and his attitudes towards tobacco now. In the back are letters from dozens of witty and fine folks, discussing variously music, big decisions, law and justice, and who knows what else. (S-38)]

THE DOVETAIL Vol. 4 #5 ($1 from Vern, 2316 Delaware Ave. #102, Buffalo, NY 14216): A newsletter on peace, environmental, social justice and related issues produced by a coalition of Buffalo-area groups. Mostly it is short takes on a variety of things, from the situation in Nicaragua to attempts to stifle the NEA. #5 has a good article on public access TV and as always a calendar of local events. (HL-12t)

DR #65 ($1 from Arthur D. Hlavaty, PO Box 52028, Durham, NC 27717): Arthur occasionally slips and actually discusses science fiction in this SF fanzine, but he does so wittily so I suppose he can be forgiven. Other topics include library science and computers (a subject in which he has just finished a degree), "amateur" sports, school politics, and what's wrong with the world in general. Pretty telling social criticism wrapped in a palatable coating of humor and snideness. (S-12t)

DRAFT NOtices Vol. 11 #3 ($10/yr from COMD, PO Box 15195, San Diego, CA 92115): Solid opposition to the draft and militarism in all its guises, with some emphasis on reaching youth to counteract propaganda from military recruiters. #3 discusses the cold war and the current "thaw" in relations, plans to blockade Rocky Flats, and the latest from their Draft Resisterd Defense Fund. (S-10t)

THE DROOD REVIEW OF MYSTERY Vol. X #5-6 ($20/12 issues from PO Box 8872, Boston, MA 02114): A monthly run-down of the latest in mystery writing, full of thoughtful and sensitive reviews. They also make some effort to keep tabs on mystery fandom, as in #5 which has extensive coverage of the convention Malice Domestic 2. #6 has the annual summer preview of forthcoming books. (S-16t)

DUMARS REVIEWS #8 ($2 from Denise Dumars c/o Terata Publications, PO Box 810, Hawthorne, CA 90251): A collection of reviews, not just of zines but also movies, books, occult stores and restaurants in the southern California area. Denise also makes room to spotlight a new poet in each issue. Please note that they only review solicited items, so don;t send anything without writing first. (D-20)

THE DUPLEX PLANET #107 ($6/4 issues from PO Box 1230, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866): A collection of interviews with residents of the Duplex Nursing Home and other senior citizens. That simple statement doesn't capture the charm here, as editor David Greenberger asks a few questions and then just listens and records. Topics hop from the Tower of Babel to miracles to work to holidays. (D-16)

☐**EARTH ACTION NETWORK** June 1990 ($6/12 issues from 1711 M.L. King Way #D, Berkeley, CA 94709): The Earth Action Network is a broad coalition of folks interested in direct but nonviolent action to shut down corporate America. The two prime actions mentioned here are the stock exchange blockades and Redwood Summer. They give a number of contact addresses, and quite a few details on how to get involved. They have an interesting vision of decentralism and a sort of green socialist political program. (D-12t)

☐**EARTH BURGER** ($1 or 2 stamps from Brie Hahendorf, 8817 W. Grand Ave., River Grove, IL 60171): A collection of peaceful and hippie-inspired poems and whatnot. There is plenty of hand drawn art, poems pasted up in odd ways, a quiz on the meaning and sounds of words, and other things tucked in the corner. Has a rather amorphous and open feel to it, and a hopeful tone. (D-12)

EARTHDOG NEWS Vol. 1 #3 ($$6/yr from Snevil International, JAF Box 8274, New York, NY 10116-8274): "The official publication of Club Fred, the Fred Norris Fan Club". If you're within radio distance of New York City that probably gives you some idea of the contents; if not, you may be lucky. There are Fred comics, endless snippets of Fred news from the air, and plenty of speculation from the female staffers about how the man is in bed. (S-8t)

EARTHMAKER Vol. II #1 (Donation from PO Box 23, Woodstock, NY 12498): Yes, this is a successor to the fabled Woodstock festival. The folks writing here are into a free spiritual life, and looking to get some land for a "heartquarters" to help things come together in the Now Age. Poetry, graphics, and prose work together here to try to weave a vision of a new society springing up on this fertile ground. (T-8)

☐**THE EAST SIDE VARIABLE** Vol. 3 #1-3 ($10/4 issues from Joseph Braude, 147 Elton St., Providence, RI 02906): This "miscellaneous coffeeshop publication" is put together entirely by its fifteen year old editor, who is already something of a seasoned pro. It covers local news around Providence, experiences in science fairs and other lurking corners of high school, and whatever else he finds to write about. There;s some orientation towards the classics, but the bag is pretty mixed. (S-8t)

ECOMEDIA BULLETIN #76-79 (Donation from PO Box 915, Stn. F, Toronto, ONT, M4Y 2N9, CANADA): A biweekly (more or less) anarchist newsletter which collects items from around the world, though they do focus on their own area. Another shooting by a cop leads off #76, which also has an update on the Ohio 7.

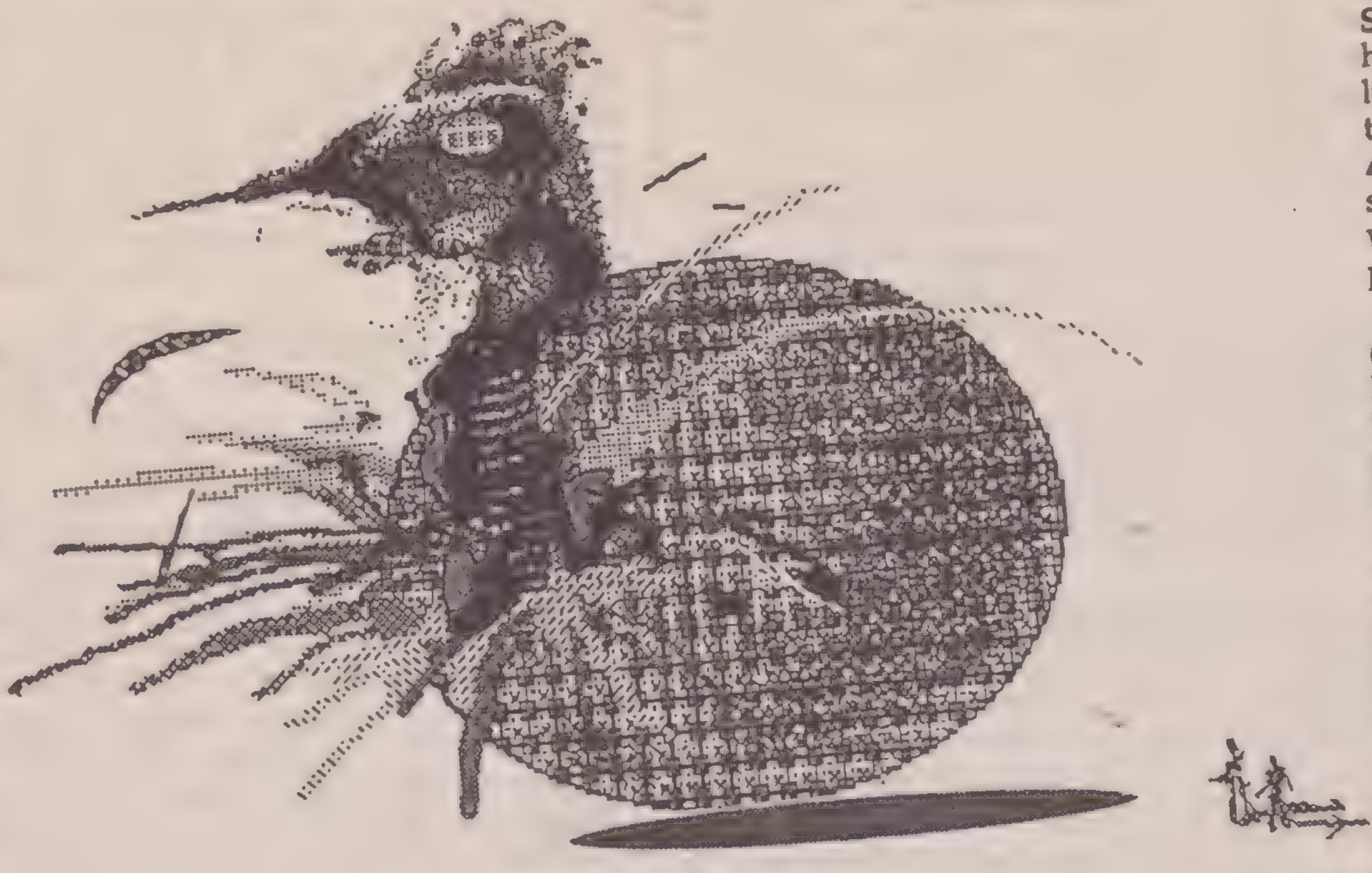
☐**ECONOMIC NOTES** #17-28 (Contact Libertarian Alliance, 1 Russell Chambers, The Piazza, Covent Garcen, London WC2E 8AA, ENGLAND): Economic essays from a libertarian point of view by a wide variety of writers. In #18 Matthew O'Keefe carries capitalism to one logical conclusion by defending insider trading as merely the valid exercise of (intellectual) property rights. George Hilton considers railway privatization in #24, while #28 explores monopolies and cartels and says we don't need government to limit them. (A4-2t)

ECOSPIRIT Vol. VI #2 (Donation from Institute for Ecosophical Studies, c/o Donald P. St. John, PhD, Moravian College, Bethlehem, PA 18018): This journal of ecology and philosophy surprised me this issue with an essay from Sean Wolf Hill, well-known small press dude. Here Sean writes about "The Deep Transcendentalism of Emerson, Thoreau and Whitman", looking at the historical circumstances and dimensions of their thought. It's an interesting contrast with the modern information society. (S-10)

THE EDGE #2 ($4 from Graham Evans, 56 Writtel Road, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 3BU, ENGLAND): A zine of speculative fiction and reviews. Patrick Whittaker leads this issue off with a manifesto for "White Heat" writing, which might well become the description of choice for some of the current greats of small press; his own story "The Snark Equation", in which Sherlock Holmes investigates Dodgson's death, is wonderful. S.M. Baxter's "The Switch" is a fun bit of space opera, while the various critical essays on folks like Phil Dick or No Wave are interesting as well. I predict good things for this zine. (A4-30r)

☐**EDUCATIONAL NOTES** #5 (Contact Libertarian Alliance, 1 Russell Chambers, The Piazza, Covent Garden, London, WC2E 8AA, ENGLAND): Commentary on the British education system from a libertarian point of view. Many of the references are somewhat opaque to the American reader, but author Dennis O'Keeffe seems mostly upset that (a) education is compulsory and (b) it's enforcing fashionable liberal ideas. (A4-2t)

EGGHEAD #4 ($1.50 from Donna Nicolino, 2161 Burroughs St., San Diego, CA 92111): A zine concerned with changing the world through simple actions, though that's more a matter of philosophy than of limits. There's a longish essay here on the sense of legalizing prostitution, poetry and short stories that tend to show people in charge of their own lives, and an editorial about the commercialization of Earth Day. A nice personal-feeling zine. (S-28r)



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ENCHANTÉ #6 ($3.50 or $12/4 issues from John Yohalem, 30 Charlton St. #6F, New York, NY 10014): This pagan journal still combines serious debate on proper worship of the Goddess with utter tongue-in-cheek humor. There's a selection of swimsuits of teh gods here, as well as the lyrics to "Surfin' Aphrodite". But there are also serious articles on the community of witches, herbalism, and local worship. Entertaining and educational all in one. (S-24t)

EOTU April 1990 ($4 from 1810 W. State #115, Boise, ID 83702): Editor Larry Dennis has put together another issue of surreal, disjointed and downright strange literary material. The issue is subtitled "I Came, I Breathed Real Hard, I Had Lunch", and inside you will find work from M. Shane Reynolds, t. Winter-Damon & Randy Chandler, Joy Oestreicher and the enigmatic Theodore Sjogren. Always perplexing, occasionally illuminating. (D-72t)

ETHEL THE AARDVARK #30 ($12/6 issues from MSFC, PO Box 212, World Trade Centre, Melbourne, Victoria, 3005, AUSTRALIA): The Melbourne SF club continues to produce a serviceable clubzine with fun covers, this one depicting the call of Ethulhu. Inside there are locs and book reviews, lists of zines and books newly added to the club library, and discussion of things like fan olympics and convention running. (A4-20t)

☐**EUTHANASIA ROSES** #1 ($1 from 759 Cranberry Ridge, Fairbanks, AK 99712): A stew of poetry, collage, music reviews, chopped up tracts, zines and short stories. Unbridled, unconstrained creativity leads to some confusing passages but there is some strong and slippery work here as well. Looking to communicate feelings as much as anything else. (S-16)

☐**EVEN PARANOIACS CAN HAVE ENEMIES** #1 ($1 from Tom Long, 868 Greenview, Gurnee, IL 60031): A new magazine of collage and text. There are bits here about Richard Speck, excerpts from Max Stirner's **THE EGO AND HIS OWN**, nipple piercing, photocopied pocket change, FBI memoranda, and a note "I like Twin peaks". A medley of photos, paintings and words to leave a nasty taste behind. (HL-36)

EVERYONE'S BACKYARD Vol. 8 #3 ($25/yr from CCHW, PO Box 926, Arlington, VA 22216): The Citizen's Clearinghouse for Hazardous Wastes is getting more deeply into the roots of corporate crime and pollution even as they continue to encourage hundreds of local struggles against incinerators, dumps, and other environmental nastiness. EB lists news state by state, and offers general advice on legal and political organizing. An essential in the activist's toolkit. (S-32t)

EXPERIMENT IN WORDS #4 ($4 from Robert Howington. PO Box 470186, Fort Worth, TX 76147): This used to be **A BUG IN MY FRIES MAGAZINE**, but wanted to be taken more seriously. Inside, there's poetry form Bukowski and Weinman, among lots of others, plus some short prose. This includes a review of **SPHERE** and a humorous piece on the limits where safe sex turns into paranoid sex. A bit experimental, and sticking mostly to short work that can be presented clearly. (S-16)

EXTRA! Vol. 3 #4 ($3.50 from FAIR, 175 Fifth Ave. #2245, New York, NY 10010): A progressive analysis of the balance of news coverage in this country—balance which they generally find to be sorely lacking. #4 is a special issue, devoted entirely to analyzing the guest lists and other practices of Nightline and MacNeil/Lehrer. It's no big surprise to me that both represent narrow chunks of the political spectrum, with progressives and radicals not wanted or needed. (S-16t)

THE FADING UNIVERSE #2 ($1 from Andrew Roller, PO Box 221295, Sacramento, CA 95822): An outlet for Roller's literary ambitions, this one is quite variable in quality. The title serial seems to be an exercise in throwing in plot twists from cheap science fiction by the handful to see how long it takes the reader to give up. "Dis's Sojourn", though, is a reasonably clever short fantasy. (S-10t)

FAMILY TRAVEL LOG Vol. 20 #4 ($5/12 issues from PO Box 406, Kewanee, IL 61443-0406): This is perhaps one of the most "normal" small press papers I've ever seen. The root topic is vacations, with news on Disney restaurants, Bluegrass festivals, unusual tourist attractions, and where to drive an RV. They also print jokes, recipes and classified ads. In this issue they even start a column on the pitfalls of running a business by mail. (T-24t)

FANTASY FEDERATION Vol. 1 #5 ($1 from Jeff Cohen, 50 Shelley Ln., Great Neck, NY 11023): This is a wrestling publication with a twist: all the matches described in it are fictional. Readers are invited to do their own booking and writeups, and send them in for publication. Well, why not? (S-8)

FANTOD #9-10 (SASE (?) from Jim S., PO Box 65034, Washington, DC 20035-5034): A confusing rambling fanzine that appears to be made up mostly of dreams—or of writing which makes as little linear sense as dreams, anyhow. Essays and cartoons are typeset in all sorts of crazy angled fonts, and sexual suggestions come wandering through at odd intervals. Includes a few music reviews which are almost lucid by comparison. (S-5t)

FARM PULP June 1990 ($1 from 1404 N. 41st, Seattle, WA 98103): I don't quite feel like I have a handle on this "magazine about life in these Americas" yet, but I do know I like it. Mainly reprints, from a sensible look at anarchism for the uninitiated to ads for rare & exotic chickens, it's all simmered down into a surprising stew. Turn the page and find a colorful photocopy of some mail art; turn it again and get an update on sex an power. Plenty of graphics, oddball juxtapositions, and the price is right. (S-24t)

FATAL VISIONS #8 (2 IRCs for info from PO Box 133, Northcote, 3070, Victoria, AUSTRALIA): A film zine with a classy look that doesn't mind wandering off into other bits of culture; this issue has a long history of the Cramps in it. For movies, they do everything from interview a couple of porn actresses to review *Rabid Grannies*. They reprint some classic film PR material, review *Sexy Girls With Sexy Guns*, and generally seem to be having a good time with questionable movies. (A4-34t)

THE FEAT SHEET Vol. 3 #2 ($10/lifetime from Derrick Fogle, 818 W. 95th St., Kansas City, MO 64114): A newsletter for people involved in footbag and related sports. Your subscription includes lifetime membership in the World Footbag Association and a club t-shirt or a free footbag, so what are you waiting for? Kicking these things around is definitely a growing sport, and a lot of people find it fun. (I find it fun to read about). (S-6t)

FIFTH ESTATE Vol. 25 #1 ($5/yr from 4632 Second Ave., Detroit, MI 48201): Maybe I've just been reading this anarchist paper long enough to understand them, but it seems to me that they're making a real effort to bring their sweeping critique of capital and technology down from the reified mountain to somewhere more gut-level understandable. Topics here include (briefly) shutting down a garbage incinerator, looks back at Emma Goldman and the Black Panthers, and the bombing of the Redwood Summer activists in California. Their letters page contains missives from some of the most narrow-minded anarchist ideologues around, but fortunately, this is only a minor part of an otherwise enjoyable paper. (T-32t)

FINE MADNESS Vol. 7 #1 ($4 from PO Box 15176, Seattle, WA 98115-0176): A litmag which continues to pick and publish high-quality work in relatively traditional modes. They're not stuffy, but they also avoid the flightier realms of experimentation. Fine poetry in this issue from Robert Ward and Molly Tenenbaum, and a longish story of confused love from David Almon Downing, stand out in this issue. (D-80t)

FLY Vol. 2 #8-9 ($1 from PO Box 5554 Stn. A, Toronto, ONT, M5W 1N7, CANADA): A zine on a postcard, which does make for handy shipping if it also invites the occasional alteration by postmark. #8 is a story of dubious reality, a rant from someone bursting forth from sheltered existence to universal amazement, or so I read it anyhow. #9 has eyes and flies and emotions and hurricanes and still more confusion.(M-2t)

FNORD #3 (SASE from Paul Leonard, PO Box 993, St. Charles, IL 60174): This is a rather depressing zine, not because it's poorly written, but because of the events described. Paul was one of the founders of FNORD, but then he had his co-editors take the zine away from him and got squeezed out. He names names and gives details, and sounds quite bitter about the whole thing. (HS-8t)

FOCUSING IN ON THE MAN IN THE MOON #3 ($1 from Sal Robert Pauciello, 9 Stanley St., Irvington, NJ 07111): "A newsletter of interactive expression", this one has lots of poetry but branches out from there. Sal recommends jazz/fusion albums worth seeking out, there's an excerpt from a book by Lester Murphy which has a strange fantastic flow, and there are even editorials on current events. Idiosyncratic and unexpected. (S-14)

☐**FOLIO** Feb.-Mar. 1990 ($68/12 issues from PO Box 4949, Stamford, CT 06907): The "Magazine for Magazine Management" is another slick aimed at the big boys—people whose printer bill is closer to $100,000 than $100. Still, there are articles here of interest to the moderately serious zine publisher, including a fascinating analysis of the coming postal hike in February. The latest in personal computer hardware for publishing is also a regular feature, as are ideas on increasing circulation. (S-160t)

☐**FOREIGN POLICY PERSPECTIVES** #14-15 (Contact Libertarian Alliance, 1 Russell Chambers, The Piazza, Covent Garden, London, WC2E 8AA, ENGLAND): A pair of essays from the libertarian point of view. #14, by Tim Powell, looks at the arguments for a transitional libertarian government maintaining at least a partially interventionist foreign policy, and is a solid piece of work. #15, on the other hand, is a fantasy essay by Nick Roberts proposing that a libertarian society can protect itself against invasion with a corps of super-assassins, ready to gun down foreign leaders that try anything funny. (A4-4t)

FOSFAX #149 ($3 from FOSFA, PO Box 37281, Louisville, KY 40233-7281): A wide-ranging science fiction zine largely written by its readers, who send in lots of short reviews and even more letters. The overall tone tends to be conservative, even reactionary in places, with a leavening of libertarians plus a few liberal voices. Hugo awards, fan politics, and SF in the Soviet Union are a few of the many topics in this issue. (S-60r)

FRACTAL REPORT #9 ($23/6 issues from J. de Rivaz, c/o Reeves Telecommunications, West Towan House, Porthtowan, Truro, Cornwall, TR4 8AX, UK): A newsletter of fractals and chaos and related subjects which emphasizes computer code so that readers may generate images themselves. Of course some of this code is for computers unavailable int he States, but you can't have everything. Pictures and plots are crammed in as well, some with rather low resolution, but all provoking the itch to go out and explore the Mandelbrot set some more. (A4-20t)

FREE ASSOCIATION Vol. 2 #3 ($1 (?) from Youth Against Militarism, c/o Friends for a Non-Violent World, 2025 Nicollet Ave. #203, Minneapolis, MN 55404): A "Rag for Alternative Youth" that promotes peace through a variety of means. There's an interesting debate in this issue between proponents of possibly violent self-defense and pacifism. They also discuss treaty rights, the nonsense of corporate environmentalism, and how to convince people that anarchy is a reasonable alternative. (S-24t)

FREEDOM NETWORK NEWS #27 ($1 (?) from 1800 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94102): The newsletter of the International Society for Individual Liberty, a loose association of Libertarians and sympathizers around the world. This issue reports on a seminar in Estonia and plugs the August Libertarian World Conference. (S-4t)

THE FREEDOM SOCIALIST Vol. 12 #1 (75¢ from Freedom Socialist Party, 5018 Ranier Ave. S, Seattle, WA 98118): These folks are Trotskyites—there's a foldout poster of old Leon himself in the centerfold of this issue. They also pronounce themselves the "Voice of Revolutionary Feminism". In hard news, they look at the chance that Gorby will get away with capitalizing Russia, and report further on the Freeway Hall Case victory. (T-12t)

☐**FREEDOM TIMES** Vol. 1 #1 (25¢ stamp from Ian Winterbottom, 11913 Renwood La., Rockville, MD 20852): A new zine of libertarian theory and propaganda. This premiere issue explores the coercive nature of taxation with special attention to its origins, looks at the collapse of socialism, and contrasts socialist and libertarian solutions to environmental problems. The drug wars successes and failures also rate an article. Well-argued political theory. (S-4t)

THE FREEDOM WRITER Vol. VII #3 ($20/yr from Simon, Porteous & Associates, PO Box 589, Great Barrington, MA 01230): An essay-style zine on the separation of church and state, from the point of view of those who think the gap has been closed too far. This issue looks at the equal access of religious groups to public school facilities and has some notes on Wildmon's latest defeat. (S-4t)

☐**FREEWAY TO EMMAUS** Ash Wednesday 1990 ($1 (?) from PO Box 111, Buffalo, NY 14225): The bulletin of the Catholic Underground, which appears to be a group of committed Catholics who actually think for themselves. This issue is about the "growing scandal of priest sex", but rather than take the usual tack that sexual priests are bad people, they argue that chastity is a bad and outmoded institution. (S-6)

THE FROSTBITE FALLS FAR-FLUNG FLIER! Vol. 4 #4 ($5/4 issues from Charles Ulrich c/o Swick, 6002 Redondo Ct. NW, Albuquerque, NM 87107): A fanzine devoted to Rocky, Bullwinkle and the other Jay Ward cartoon characters. Hoppity Hooper leads off this issue, which also features a Sherman and Peabody trivia quiz and lots of short bits of news. Classic cartoons live! (S-14)

FUN Vol. 3 #1-3 ($1 from 919 S. Main #104, Royal Oak, MI 48150): An outrageous humor magazine with something to offend anyone and lots of detailed parodies. #1 has a Peanuts satire that proved to be actionable. #2 takes the War on Drugs to new heights of absurdity, complete with recruiting poster and enemy recognition pictures. #3 skewers Detroit mayor Coleman Young and also gives some tips on playing with matches. Packed with the sort of thing we all used to laugh at (and some of us still do). (S-32t)

FUNHOUSE MIRROR #6-7 ($1 from 853 Vanderbilt Beach Rd. #203, Naples, FL 33963): A high school underground which relies mainly on the best weapon available: humor. #6 has a parody of the official school paper tucked in, while #7 runs all the way to an obscure joke inside the back cover that few readers will get. Along the way they review a book and movie or two, poke fun at substitute teachers, get in trouble with the administration, and suggest ways to annoy yuppies and skaters. (S-16r)

FUNNY PAGES #6-9 ($1 & SASE From PO Box 317025, Dayton, OH 45431): "To Delight and Offend" is the slogan on the cover, and this collection of jokes will probably do both for most anyone. Leper jokes, minority jokes, sexual jokes, paraplegic jokes, lawyer jokes...Joe Workman collects them all. No matter how liberal you are you probably won't be able to avoid snickering—and then feeling guilty about it. (S-10)

FUNNY TIMES June 1990 ($15/12 issues from PO Box 18530, Cleveland, OH 44118): A monthly collection of humor from a lot of current favorites: Matt Groening, Lynda Barry, Chuck Shepherd's *News of the Weird*, Syvia, Art Buchwald, Piraro and Dave Barry among them. You can get all this stuff elsewhere, but this is a handy package to keep around and read in small bites. (T-32t)

□**FURNOGRAPHY** Vol. 1 #1-2 ($4.50 from Bob & Brenda Daverin, PO Box 2464, Redwood City, CA 94064): Hardcore sex with a twist—the twist being that all the participants are anthropomorphized animals of various species. It ranges from Hard R to XXX, and features both comics for Furverts and written adventures in a PENTHOUSE LETTERS mode. Sure to be a hit in certain circles. (S-32t)

THE GAINESVILLE IGUANA Vol. 4 #9 ($5-10/yr from Iguana c/o CISPLA, PO Box 14712, Gainesville, FL 32604): A survey of social justice and peace concerns in the Gainesville area and nationally. Of particular importance in this issue are several stories on skinhead violence in the area, plus a report on the most recent GE shareholders' meeting. Central American and community networking concerns are also prominent. (S-16t)

GAMMON, GAMMON #4 ($1.50 from Jon P. Lewis, 1802 NE 55th, Seattle, WA 98105): This one is getting more varied, and in addition to confusing comics it now has confusing stories as well. There's a serial starting this time in which Charon discovers a houseboat floating down the Styx. Strange inventions, cartoon characters out of their proper universes, and convoluted houseguest tales combine in this "magazine of benevolent confusion". (D-24r)

THE GAMUT #30 ($6 from Room 1218 Fenn Tower, Cleveland State University, Cleveland, OH 44115): A wide-ranging university magazine that constantly manages to surprise. This tenth anniversary issue has articles on subjects as diverse as terrorism and *manga*. There's also a special section on books and publishing which runs from academic presses to scholarly journals to the micropress (the latter reported by Charlotte Pressler). (S-144t)

THE GATE July 1990 ($1.50 from PO Box 43518, Richmond Heights, OH 44143): A light journal of unexplained phenomenon. Reading through it, one gets the sense that the world is indeed a strange place. The July issue takes a trip into the sewers of New York (finding bass and snapping turtles, but no gators), reports on some music recorded inside the Great Pyramid, and considers the question of elves. Some stories have solid sources, some appear more questionable. (S-16)

GAWK #5 ($5/4 issues [suggested; send what you can] from Tom Shearer, PO Box 31431, San Francisco, CA 94131): The magazine of the Gay Artists and Writers Kollective, and gay it is indeed. The range is wide, from poetry and short fiction to dirty childhood memories to Tom's tour of Eastern Europe. The section of zine reviews is outrageous and wonderful. Tom is also starting DISEASED PARIAH NEWS, a new zine for HIV+ individuals to debut in September at $5/4 issues. (HL-24t)

□**GAY 1990's GAY MAIL ART** #i-iv(Contribution from PO Box 300006, Minneapolis, MN 55403-5006): A celebration of mail art from gay artists worldwide, in the form of frequent shows bound together and distributed to participants, With one image per page, these are almost galleries, featuring everything from photos to cartoons to collages (an age statement would probably be appropriate). Looking for more contributions, too. (S-18)

GAY COMMUNITY NEWS Vol. 17 #43-Vol. 18 #1 ($33/49 issues from 62 Berkeley St., Boston, MA 02116): The national newspaper for the lesbian and gay community, looking at everything from medicine and law to culture and fun. #43 has a great essay on the stresses of writing a book with a bunch of women crammed into one apartment with a bunch of computers. #45 features a fine article by Michael Bronski exploring the phenomenon of "outing". #48 reports on a march in New York by Queer Nation, a group which refuses to passively accept fagbashing and verbal intimidation. #49 reviews the evidence that George Washington may have been gay. (T-20t)

THE GEIS LETTER #2 ($2 from Richard E. Geis, PO Box 11408, Portland, OR 97211): More SF, fantasy and horror book reviews from one of the most polished and entertaining reviewers around. As Mike Glicksohn points out in the letter column of this issue, the reviews are worth reading even when you never intend to read the books themselves. Includes a bit of commentary on the fanzine scene and letters from authors explaining some of their working methods as well. (S-8r)

GENDER EXPRESSIONS Vol. I #6-Vol. II #1 ($30/yr from Bisley Enterprises c/o Lifestyle Books, 7580 W. 16th Ave. #201, Lakewood, CO 80215): There are dissidents in all sorts of communities; these people are dissidents in the gender community (a group which includes transvestites and transsexuals). There are several intense attacks in #6 on the "Standards of Care", a psychiatric party-line used to determine who can have sex reassignment surgery, which apparently are used in a highly political fashion. What they say seems sensible to this outsider. Also includes a long list of resource groups and serious essays on the gender community's past and future. The political comment and internal dissent in the community is even more evident in #1; strong feelings all around. (S-36t)

GENII Vol. 53 #7-8 ($30/yr from PO Box 36068, Los Angeles, CA 90036): A magazine for the professional stage magician. It's full of neat ideas for illusions, from closeup coin tricks to spectacular pieces of apparatus. There are also continuing articles on the personalities involved in the business. #7 has a nifty little coin trick I rather like the sound of even if I don't have the panache to pull it off myself. #8 features a special "Vaudeville 2000" section with a lovely color cover and a selection of the most outrageous performers around, including jugglers and mimes as well as magicians. (S-64t)

GHOST TRACKERS NEWSLETTER VGol. 9 #2 ($10/3 issues from Ghost Research Society, PO Box 205, Oak Lawn, IL 60454-0205): A newsletter aimed at relatively serious trackers of ghosts. They try to give references for the reports of hauntings, both current and historic, that they print. Occasionally other related interests come in also, as with the review of a book about the underground life of London. A solid job of writing about a hard to pin down subject. (S-20)

GNOSIS #16 ($5 from PO Box 14217, San Francisco, CA 94114-0217): A slick magazine which explores a variety of spiritual topics from the lesser-known corners of the Western world. This issue is on the theme of "Orthodoxy", but we've reached the point where, for example, Orthodox monks in Alaska seem anything but. There are interesting interviews (including one with Roger Garaudy), a list of suggested readings, and an interview with a modern Hasidic rabbi. The ads here are amazing as well. (S-80t)

GOAT GAP GAZETTE Vol. 18 #3 ($16/11 issues from 5110 Bayard Ln. #2, Houston, TX 77006): A tabloid for the serious chili cook, and there are a lot of them out there. There are a lot of listings of cookoffs, as well as notes from the various sanctioning organizations and results from past cookoffs. There are recipes and silliness, photos and columns, and a fine infectious community spirit. If you're looking for a hobby that will give you an excuse to drink a lot of beer, take a look at this one. (T-16t)

THE GOLDEN CORD Vol. 3 #6 ($1 (?) from 8013 Gleason Rd., Knoxville, TN 37919): An unexceptional New Age tabloid, with a directory of local services and various articles. They are into things like "Cellular Light-Integration and Activation", and take predictions of the energies of the universe pretty seriously. Meditation instructions, astrological forecasts and generally uplifting messages are included here. (T-12t)

□**GOLDOGRAPH** #1-4 ($1.50 from Rich Gold, 815 N. Gardner St., Los Angeles, CA 90046): Four pieces of a much longer work in progress, using mathematical and computational descriptions to explore the structures of mini-worlds. #1 is a new cellular automaton. #2 gives the design of an automatic oracle using building blocks in a feedback structure. #3 pops into the space of proverbs, exploring its topography, while #4 imagines a set of construction rules for golf courses. Very curious bits of "algorithmic art". (D-12)

GOTTA WRITE #3 ($3.45 from Maren Publications, 612 Cobblestone Cir., Glenview, IL 60025): A writer's publication that is growing fast and looking good. The contents are a balanced mix of market news, reviews, and articles on the business of writing—from the procurement of copyright to the moral and legal obligations of editors. Community papers, greeting cards, small press SF and romance novels are all touched on in this issue. Inspirational. (S-40t)

G'RAFFITI Vol. III #6 ($1 from PO Box 16898, San Diego, CA 92116): Published by the Camelopard Society, an alternative to MENSA for those with high IQs, this one serves as a combination newsletter and social club glue. There's a calendar of local events, book reviews, and articles on subjects from the worthlessness of Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles to fun things to say to callers who have the wrong number. (S-24t)

GRAVE MATTERS Vol. V #4 ($5/yr from 1163 Warrenhall Ln., Atlanta, GA 30319): A newsletter for "Civil War Necrologists"—those who are interested in finding out where men who fought in our Civil War are buried. They carry articles on gravesites, battles, and modern notice of the Civil War. All is written with great respect for those who fought and died. (S-8r)

□**GREAT EXPEDITIONS** #61-62 ($4 from Box 8000-411, Sumas, WA 98295-8000): A magazine for "adventure and off-the-beaten-path travel" that does indeed contain lots of trips I would never dream of taking myself. In #61 these include a survival course in the Amazon jungle (taught by a former Peruvian army instructor), crossing the Kenyan desert in a breaking-down Land Rover, and hiking around Lanai. #62 will introduce you to the Karakoram Highway and the rest of China's wild west. Plenty of notes from around the world plus book reviews make this a source of lots of ideas for your next exciting trip. (S-42t)

THE GREAT SWAMP GAZETTE Vol. 13 #10 ($2 (?) from University of Rhode Island, Room 149 Memorial Union, Kingston, RI 02881): A combination literary/political magazine. It leads off with a nice section of reprints and humor before getting into essays and stories. Joe Leduc criticizes Earth Day (though his reasoning is a bit shaky—sometimes protestors are *also* doing other things), Matthew Lower tries to interview Kurt Vonnegut. For fiction, try Shawn Wallace's "Jello Mold Apartment". (S-40t)

THE GREEN GOAT REVIEW #2-3 (75¢ from Richard J. Neubauer, 3963 North Creek Rd., Palmyra, NY 14522): A collection of reviews, concentrating on the small press poetry world but expanding out from there. Neubauer gives frank opinion and ordering info, and concentrates on some of the lesser-known poets and publishers out there. (S-3)

GREEN MULTILOGUE Vol. 5 #1-2 ($3 from 390 Jones Ave., Toronto, ONT, M4J 3G3, CANADA): An open forum for discussion of events and issues surrounding the Green movement. They focus somewhat on the politics of Canada's Green party, but branch out to other nations and other issues as well. Sexism in the movement gets some attention here, as do education, organizing, and consensus. There is some productive dialogue going on here. #2 includes a consultant's report on the Green Party of Ontario. (S-52)

GRINDHOUSE #5 ($5/4 issues from J. Adler, PO Box 488, Radio City Sta., New York, NY 10101): A psychotic-looking handwritten zine for aficionados of nasty movies. They pan *Texas Chainsaw Massacre III* and praise *Class of 1999* in this issue, among other titles lovingly reviewed. Comes out irregularly, but they say those four issues will get to you sooner or later. Definitely an original. (D-8)

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□**GRITS** Earthday Issue ($2.50 from Scott Harbaugh, PO Box 779-153, Barefoot Bay, FL 32976): Please don't use the zine name on the envelope, due to postal hassles. This is an amusing zine of satire which goes after activists first, reporting for example that the members of PETA and Earth First have decided to commit mass suicide to ease the strain on the earth. They have Earth Day hints from Heloise and Abby, and plans to start protecting sea animals from sexual molestation. (S-18)

GROWING WITHOUT SCHOOLING #75 ($25/6 issues from 2269 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02140): This is the premiere resource magazine for those who are homeschooling their children. Every issue gives hints to dozens of resources, and is largely composed of letters written by parents and children involved in alternatives to public education. Very inspirational as well as fun to read. (S-32t)

□**THE GRUMBLING YAK** #3 ($1 (?) from PO Box 127, Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522): A collection of writing about nothing in particular. There are some rants about flagburning, a reader survey with surreal questions, a translation from Lewis Carroll, and environmental art. Who knows what else might pop up here in the future. (D-12r)

□**G.S.E.L.** #1 ($3 from PO Box 2328, Astoria Sta., New York, NY 11102): A new publication of "Graphic Scenes & X-Plicit Language", which translates, more or less, to "graffiti". Lots of pictures here, text in the same sorts of stylized script (making it difficult to puzzle through at times) and a spirit that can't be stopped by cleaning subway trains. Also includes interviews with some of the better known of the artists of the genre. (S-22)

□**GUERILLA GRAPHICS** May 1990 ($2.50 from Bob Lee, 1720 Burgundy Rd., Leucadia, CA 92024): A collection of art and text which appears to have been mostly generated on computer; it has a rough-edged graphic look that makes good use of the medium, in forms from concrete poetry to cartoons. I enjoyed the mutated Zorros and the stupid ads immensely. A bit pricey for the size, though. (M-24t)

GUIDELINES MAGAZINE Vol. III #4/5 ($4 from PO Box 608, Pittsburg, MO 65724): Susan Salaki is making this into an interesting forum for writers and editors, far beyond the scope of the initial project of one-stop shopping for writers' guidelines (though that's still available too). In this issue, Bill Withers discusses small press distribution, editor Chris Lacher responds nastily to a plaintive letter from a writer, Floyd Allen explains how to get rid of acquaintances who want you to do their writing for them, and Linda Morel reports on the current needs of the women's magazines. Fun to read and encouraging. (HL-40t)

□**GUIDE TO HEALTHY EATING** Mar./Apr. 1990 ($12.95/yr from PCRM, PO Box 6322, Washington, DC 20015): A bimonthly magazine on good nutrition from the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine. They discuss such hot topics as the relation between calcium and osteoporosis (controversial, but high calcium intake probably doesn't help), oat bran and low fat and cholesterold (the jury's still out) and so on. There are also pages of recipes and notes on different cuisines to make healthy eating simpler and more fun. (S-12t)

□**HALF-TRUTH** #1 (50¢ (?) from PO Box 931013, Los Angeles, CA 90093-1013): A collection of humor and music, some of the former being in exceedingly bad taste; they make fun of medical minorities that most people don;t even know exist. Besides the rude and crude parts (like the ad for the ground glass weight loss diet), there's an interview with Claw Hammer. (S-16r)

THE HAMMER OF TRUTH #10 ($1 (?) from National Cynicratic Party, General Delivery, Gainesville, TX 76240): Political humor, or humorous politics, or something. Included in this issue are some thoughts on the rights of vegetables and stones, a letter proposing a Nuclear Weapons Appreciation Week, and some obscure Texas gubernatorial stuff. Sort of hit or miss. (S-4)

HANG EM HIGH #1 ($1 from Rod

Toole, PO Box AH, Brisbane, CA 94005): A zine of clippings and rants, mostly along political lines. Rod gets upset about Imelda Marcos getting acquitted, talks some about the Iran/Contra scam, and picks on George Bush for having readable lips. There's also an essay from D. Castleman about what it takes to make it in the business world. A bit rocky, but it's a start. (S-8)

HAPA #10 ($1 for sample from Joe M. Singer, PO Box 135, Harrison, ID 83833-0135): **HAPA** is an amateur press association for small press people. We swap tips on printing, mailing, layout, desktop publishing, writing, and who knows what else. Strong opinions and money-saving tips prevail. I get new ideas from every issue, and enjoy it a good deal even though we could use some more contributors. (S-28)

THE HARDCORE #3 ($4 from Scott Dorward, 1st Floor Flat, 212 Croydon Road, Beckenham, Kent, BR3 4DE, UK): The "hardcore" here refers not to music but to a general area of culture beyond the edge, centered in science fiction, strange books, and odd movies. This issue includes an examination of Phil Dick's novels with an eye towards grouping them by patterns, several futuristic comments, and an interview with author Eric Brown. Little bits of zine and other news fill the corners. A bit rough visually, but working on it. (A4-40)

HARVEST Vol. 10 #6 ($11/8 issues from PO Box 228, S. Framingham, MA 01701): A pagan publication which is especially good at networking and watching major media mentions of their faith. There are articles on various rituals, proper etiquette for pagans, political beliefs that accord with Wicca, and so on. Lots of contact ads and thoughtful letters are other pluses. (S-34t)

HEADHUNTER #2 ($3.50 from Lothar, PO Box 2011, Carbondale, IL 62902): A literary anthology that goes in for strange twists. Take Jefferson Robbins' story "Edgewards", for example, in which we're never quite sure whether the protagonist is God or just nuts. Or "The Game", a nasty little story about an alienated future. There are poems too, and a nice selection of art in the centerfold. Pretty ambitious. (D-88t)

HEADTRIP Vol. 1 #3 ($1.25 from Mark Laliberte, 2791 Jos St. Louis, Windsor, ONT, N8T 2M7, CANADA): Boy, Windsor must sure be some fun place—Mark reports on two attempts to get him banned because of content in this issue. Inside you'll find a mix of music, movie and zine reviews, as well as cartoons designed to be rude and offensive and some other odds and ends. #3 includes an interview with Jesus Lizard and a strange Snoopy comic. (S-18t)

HEATHENZINE #4 ($1.75 from Ken Wagner, PO Box 587, Olean, NY 14760): A litmag that keeps growing and is drawing poetry from an increasing number of familiar names: lifshin, Catlin and Wilmarth among them in this issue. There are stories too, including a curiously incomplete pizza delivery tale from John J. Macdonald, and bits of humor which slip in between. (S-20r)

□**HISTORICAL NOTES** #4-10 (Contact Libertarian Alliance, 1 Russell Chambers, The Piazza, Covent Garden, London, WC2E 8AA, ENGLAND): Mildly revisionist historical writings from Libertarian authors. #4 examines the claim of "20 million Soviet war dead". #7 looks back at the Declaration of the Rights of Man, arguing that the socialists are lying when they claim it for themselves. #10 examines the evolution of the welfare state. (A4-2t)

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□**HOG CALLINGS** Vol. 1 #5 ($5/yr from 1301 Henry St., Berkeley, CA 94709): Well, what do you know, old hippies don't die, they just drop back in for the 90's. If you know of Wavy Gravy or the Hog Farm you have some idea what to expect here. If not, well...humor, irreverence at both those in power and the alternatives, hogs, crazy drawings and puzzles, accounts of friendship and humor worldwide are all here. And of course psychedelic buses join them as well. (T-8t)

HOMELESS BRAGG RAGG June-July 1990 (Donation from PO Box 20292, Santa Barbara, CA 93102): A newsletter by and for the homeless. In the Santa Barbara area, this means a good deal of attention to protests and laws, since the city's official stance is essentially that the homeless should be driven into the sea. Includes art and poetry as well. (S-12)

HOME POWER #17 ($2 from PO Box 130, Hornbrook, CA 96044): There are a lot of folks out there into alternative energy, and not too many ways for them to get together. **HOME POWER** solves much of this problem with their continuing roundup of technologies and tips for the energy independent person. They're heavily into explaining actual systems and their benefits and pitfalls, evaluating products, and conducting a continuing technical correspondence with readers. A valuable resource. (S-64t)

HORIZONS UNLIMITED #43 (50¢ & Age Statement from Nancy Spriggs, 7395 Hillside Turn, Mt. Airy, MD 21771): A magazine of mostly art with the occasional bit of poetry and other stuff dropped in. Much of it is sexually explicit, including some of co-editor Tisch's stippled pin-up art. Others copy characters from the comics, or even provide their own comic characters; Matt Feazell shows up briefly in this one. (S_6)

□**HOTCHA!** #67/68 (Contact Urban Gwerder, CH-7243 Pany, SWITZERLAND): This one has a hippie look and feel, but my German is too abysmal to extract much meaning from it. They do however seem to be intrigued by the Bolo'bolo idea. Lots of intricate drawings of buildings and sex set a visual tone here, and the multicolored printing makes it look fun too. (A4-32r)

HOUSEWIFE-WRITER'S FORUM Vol. 3 #2 ($4 from Deborah Haeseler, PO Drawer 1518, Lafayette, CA 94549): A very pro journal for writers making the transition to serious sales. It's much less puffy and more useful than many writing newsletters, putting together advice from published authors and editors with good work from readers. Short stories and poetry rub elbows with tales of rejection slips, notes on professional presentation, and ideas on how to cope with writing while still maintaining a household. (D-40t)

HUDSON VALLEY GREEN TIMES Vol. 10 #3 ($15/yr from Hudson Valley GREEN, PO Box 208, Red Hook, NY 12571): An environmental tabloid for people living along the Hudson River, which includes your Æditor. #3 is a special issue focusing on the water supply, from little private companies to the plans of New York City to take mega-gallons from the River. Always interesting, aware, and activist. (T-12t)

HUMANIST NEWS Vol. 4 #8-9 ($25/yr from Bernie Schatz, 4418 Josephine La., Robbinsdale, MN 55422-1328): A newsletter for the Humanist Association of Minneapolis. It spends a good deal of time poking fun at religious folks and their ideas. #8 has thoughts on debating Jehovah's Witnesses plus a selection of quotes from past Popes that look somewhat less than perfectly infallible. (S-6t)

□**I AIN'T LYING** Vol. 4 #1 ($5 from Mississippi: Cultural Crossroads, Box 89 ASU, Lorman, MS 39096): Oral history from Claiborne County, Mississippi, put together by a bunch of teenagers. Topics range from quilting to civil rights, with memories of decades past coming from some of the County's older residents. Many speak of tough times, but despite this they have accumulated a large amount of strength and wisdom. This is a fine production, with sensitive questions, good stories, nice illustrations and an indomitable spirit. (S-72t)

I'D RATHER BE LAUGHING Vol. 1 #2 (2 stamps from PO Box 3369, Iowa City, IA 52244-3369): Wow, the feeling of power—the first two or three pages in this humor zine take off from their last **FACTSHEET FIVE** review. This is lighthearted humor, not stuff that involves laughing at dead dogs (well, there is one veal calf) or something. They sneak in a little beefcake, one of the world's most confusing stories, and a page on 900- chatlines for kids. (D-20)

THE IIIRD I #5 ($2.50 from Bruce Salamandir-Feyrecilde, PO Box 2683, Bellingham, WA 98227): A collection of metaphysical and religious essays from a variety of viewpoints. Much of this article is about witchcraft and satanism, from a defensive essay to an article on a satanic crime workshop by some paranoid law-enforcement bozo. Everyone from the Jehovah's Witnesses to the Buddhists is represented here, and the juxtapositions are fascinating. (D-36t)

□ILEKRIUO MAHERI (Contact Ilias Polihronauis, I. Deligiannaki 29, GR 731 33 Chania, GREECE): A Greek-language zine of strange literature. Fortunately Ilias sent me a summary, so I can tell you it's got Judge Dredd, JG Ballard, Ray Bradbury, Phil Dick, and a comic called "Lost Patrol". Nothing fancy, but it looks solid. Wish I could read it. (D-108r)

THE IMPOSSIBLE UTTERANCE #3-4 (Free for a stamp from Plaster Cramp Press, PO Box 1083, Wheaton, IL 60189): A zine for offbeat language work. #3 was produced by combining two Hypercard stacks, one (by Miekal And) which produces an endless stream of words like "finacy" and "Orryseneyex]", and the other which makes typographically complex illustrations to go along. It's not especially readable, though it is almost maddeningly close to language. Jake Berry and Miekal And are among the contributors to #4. (HS-8t)

□INDEPENDENT WOMAN Vol. IV #6 ($2.50 from Molly Gill, PO Box 28253, Kenneth City Sta., St. Petersburg, FL 33709): News notes and opinion directed at women from a feminist point of view. Molly is not afraid to buck the trend; in this issue she questions the value of home schooling and looks back at Romanian history. Other topics include privatization and the treatment of women in activist groups (with a number of references to Marxist groups). Crusty and different. (L-16)

INDUSTRIAL WORKER June 1990 ($10/yr from 3435 N. Sheffield Ave. #202, Chicago, IL 60657): This independent labor union seems to be getting more heavily into social action again, after a few years of (at least so far as I could tell from their paper) the doldrums. The Earth First! Redwood Summer project captures the front page of the June issue. Inside are May Day celebrations, political prisoners in the US, and Wob politics and philosophy. (T-8t)

INFINITE ONION #2 ($1 Cash/Stamps from Dave Fischer, 7559 Red Mountain Dr., Colorado Springs, CO 80920): An anarchist zine which also takes strong stands against racism, animal cruelty, and environmental destruction. They pass on flyers and pamphlets and posters, say nasty things about racism in the punk scene, and generally encourage people to think for themselves. There's a good article on flagburning in this issue too. (S-20)

INFO JOURNAL #60 ($3 from PO Box 367, Arlington, VA 22210-0367): The official organ of the International Fortean Organization, a group of people fascinated by anomalies. This issue suggests that Jason & the Argonauts may have reached Peru, looks at the game of supercheckers, and considers the hypothesis that the earth has reversed directions of spin at least once. They also present plenty of short bits on mysterious ruins, scientific questions, near extinct animals and the like. (S-42t)

INSIDE #14 (Contact Outsides Club, Box 4ZB, London W1A 4ZB, ENGLAND): The occasional publication of the Outsiders Club, a social club for those with various difficulties, from MS to depression to ostomy to visual handicaps. They organize quite a number of events and do good work at putting people in touch with one another. This is an abbreviated issue, thanks to the pressures of organizing the annual meeting. (A5-4t)

INSIDE ENVIRONMENT Vol. 2 #6-7 ($2.50 from PO Box 13061, Lexington, KY 40583): An environmental journal which concentrates on the mid-South region, and features mainly government and industry perspectives. The general attitude seems to be that we can fix things if only we're careful this time around. #6 concentrates mainly on landfill alternatives, including composting, recycling, and reusing old landfill sites. #7 has a couple of pieces on environmentally conscious coal mining. (T-20t)

INSIDE JOKE #76 ($1.50 [no trades] from Elayne Wechsler, PO Box 1609, Madison Sq. Sta, New York, NY 10159-1609): Humor, essays, and sidelights on the mass media by a bunch of fun folks. There's Steve Chaput reviewing comics, Ho Chi Zen printing teaching stories, and Anni Ackner doing her usual wonderful job of writing. Commercials, music, cartoons, you name it; you can find it here, at least until after #80 when the zine goes on indefinite vacation. (S-32t)

THE INSIDER GUN NEWS Vol. 4 #5-6/7 ($50/yr from The Gunpress Publishing Co., PO Box 2441, Merrifield, VA 22116): Firearms industry and hobby news from John D. Aquilino, who seems to have a lot of contacts. Continuing coverage of stories like the FBI's bumbling attempts to procure new ammunition are always interesting, as are the pot-shots at an increasingly ineffective NRA. Lots of short news bits I don't see anywhere else. #6/7 is a special issue devoting a lot of space to the NRA annual report and its deficiencies. (S-6)

(in•sit) #4 ($5/6 issues from Donna Wilson, PO Box 17406, Arlington, VA 22216): A swath through some of the more interesting cultural byways, from the bickering of the anarchist milieu to current small press science fiction. They have a music column which is strong on the DC live scene and a generally iconoclastic view of things; there's no reluctance here to take swipes at critical darlings they find overrated. Check out Todd Mason's "Polemical Notions" column for good bits of prose and activism. (S-16t)

INSPIRACY CAD #1 ($1 from High Improbability International, PO Box 523, Columbia Station, OH 44028-0523): A new zine from the marginal crowd, or what's left of it. Bob Black provides reviews of the latest from Loompanics, there's a longish experimental short story called "The Truth Sadist" and a few zine reviews. Not a mammoth start, but who knows? (D-16t)

INSTAURATION Vol. 15 #7-8 ($5 from Howard Allen Enterprises, PO Box 76, Cape Canaveral, FL 32920): A discomfiting magazine of conservative politics and pleas for an end to integration. The people here are concerned that "white majority" culture is vanishing and the country is going to the dogs, and they cite lots of news to prove this. They are also harsh in their criticism of Israel, with "The Misery of the Palestinians" the cover story of #7. #8 looks at "The WASP Mystique" and investigates theories of crime and punishment. (S-36t)

□THE INTELLECTUAL ACTIVIST Vol. V #4 ($3.50 from PO Box 582, Murray Hill Sta., New York, NY 10156): A newsletter in defense of individual rights which proceeds from Objectivist principles. Of the major articles in this issue, one looks at the continuing fallout

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from **THE SATANIC VERSES** and the other condemns the notion that there is something wrong with Eurocentric education. Alternatively exciting and infuriating. (S-8)

INTERCEPTED Vol. 9 #4-5 (65¢ plus 45¢ postage from Kay Shapero, 12536 Short Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90066): Take Star Trek, Star Wars, various obscure books, the Addams Family, Indiana Jones, space pirates, deranged furry animals, and all manner of other characters. Then throw them together and give them a big bulletin board to communicate with. OK, that's **INTERCEPTED**. It's tough to follow for a while, but once you get the hang of it, you're encouraged to join in as any character you please to add to the fun. (S-10r)

☐**THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL** Vol. 1 #1 ($20/4 issues from 10 Eastern Ave., Concord, NH 03301): The full title here is **THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL FOR CROSS-CULTURAL COMMUNICATION**. What that means is writing from around the world about people's real lives. Contributions come in from Kenya, the US and Japan in the premiere issue, and each portrays a little slice of life that's worth the moments it takes to read. (HL-32)

INTUITIVE EXPLORATIONS Vol. III #12-Vol. IV #1 ($2 from PO Box 561, Quincy, IL 62306-0561): A New Age zine which seems to be getting a bit deeper these days. There's an excellent article from Catherine Groves in #12 worrying about the impact of the Supreme Court's recent decision about peyote on various religions. They also feature much material on subjects such as past life regressions, astrology and Tarot. (S-24)

ISSUES & VIEWS Vol. 6 #2 ($10/yr from PO Box 467, Cathedral Sta., New York, NY 10025): "An open forum on issues affecting the black community", this one is out of the mainstream of both black and other major media. Their main idea is that entrepreneurship and business sense and self-help make more sense than demagoguery or pressure group politics. Every issue has stories about successful blacks. #2 also has an interesting commentary from Stanley Crouch about the state of the black community. (S-10t)

IT'S A MAD MAD MAD MAD MAD WORLD! #4 ($$1 *stamps/cash* from Flybreeder Publications, 308 N. 77th St., Seattle, WA 98103) a medley of rants, raves, and reprints—such as the classic Minitrue pamphlet "Did God Ordain the Holocaust?" Other bits include a review of true crime books, clip art, ravings from Steve Anger, and a lit of Ted Bundy's victims. A mixed bag from the margins of society. (S-28)

IT'S ONLY A MOVIE #1-2 ($2.75 from Michael Flores, PO Box 14683, Chicago, IL 60614-0683): Newly reformatted and looking much slicker than before, this mostly-movies zine is now getting some well-deserved national distribution. Though anchored in works like "Suspiria" and reviewers like Joe Bob Briggs, they get off into all sorts of corners of popular culture. #1 includes an interview with John Cleese, Classics Illustrated Comics and The Cramps as well as big screen stuff. More Cramps in #2, along with Mr. Ed and lots of pages of lauding of classic trash television. (S-32t)

IT'S ONLY THE BEGINNING #9 ($1.25 from Box 1653, Hampshire College, Amherst, MA 01002): Radical student news anchored on the Amherst and U. Mass campuses. Much of this is local, but there are also articles on national activities and actions such as the post-Earth Day Wall Street demonstration. A bit scattered, but with strong radical stands on a lot of issues sticking out of the bale. (S-8t)

JAG Vol. 28 #6 (On Request from R.S. Jaggard, MD, 10 E. Charles, Oelwein, IA 50662): "An educational report" from a doctor who does not approve of creeping socialization in medicine. This particular issue reports on a recent conference of IATROS, a group of physicians who stand behind "private medicine for individual patients". Occasionally crotchety, always fiercely independent, and living proof that you can buck the system and survive. (L-1)

THE JAILFISH REVIEW Vol. 1 #2 ($4.25 from 124 1/2 Broadway E. #16, Seattle, WA 98102): A semiannual litmag which seems to concentrate on stories just on the edge of reality. They're not fantasy, precisely, but real people in somewhat dreamy situations—or explicitly dreamy ones, as in Noemie Maxwell's contribution to this issue. Rick Bass provides a moving story of childhood bullying in "Catfish", and Marion Kimes contributes several excellent poems. (D-70t)

THE JAMES WHITE REVIEW Vol. 7 #4 ($12/yr from PO Box 3356, Traffic Sta., Minneapolis, MN 55403): A literary quarterly for the most part directed at the gay men's community. The best piece in #4 is "The Scarlet Letter Revisited: A Very Different AIDS Diary", by Walter Rico Burrell, who succeeds in conveying both the feelings and the day to day nuisances of having AIDS. There's also excellent photography from Thomas Hansen, plus more stories, poetry, and book reviews. (T-20t)

THE JED YARICK NEWSLETTER 5/90-7/90 ($2.50/3 issues from Jed Yarick, 9319 Craig, Overland Park, KS 66212): The personal doings of Jed Yarick. The burning question in the May issue is whether he can continue his lifestyle of frequent trips to the local bars after his graduation from college? Or will he have to get a job? Stay tuned for the next issue and you might find out. (S-5)

J. LEROY'S PROGRESS Part VI ($1 from J. LeRoy, PO Box 4843, East Lansing, MI 48826-4843): J. (editor of **BVI-CENTRAL**) has been writing his autobiography in spurts; here's the latest. He's up to his years in Lincoln, which merge together to one dull dead time. However, he still finds entertaining and interesting things to write about, from getting laid to being threatened by bill collectors to buying legal drugs from a paranoid headshop. (D-20t)

JOURNAL OF THE MEGAHEALTH SOCIETY Vol. 6 #1 ($3 from PO Box 60637, Palo Alto, CA 94306): A journal of articles and advice for those concerned with the chance that dietary supplements can help more than most people realize. This issue looks at the circadian rhythm of heart attacks, and gives a long rundown of things you can take to possibly beef up your immune system. (S-8t)

JOURNAL WIRED Spring 1990 ($10 from PO Box 76, Shingletown, CA 96088): A spiffy perfect-bound journal of sf, speculations and who knows what else edited by Mark Ziesing and Andy Watson. This issue features bits on computers and telecommunications from Watson and Michael Banks (I don;t agree 100% with either, but it's nice to see these topics tackled), stories from Paul Di Filippo and Lewis Shiner, interviews with Pat Cadigan, Lisa Tuttle, and Colin Greenland, and lots more. This is one to watch. (D-175t)

THE KANSAS INTELLIGENCER Vol. 4 #7 ($12/12 issues from R.W. Clack, 5524 Anderson Ave., Manhattan, KS 66502): A monthly broadside of editorial views from a more or less conservative soapbox. In this issue Clack devotes most of his space to examining the S&L crisis; as usual, he draws back from the cries of doom the mainstream media is issuing, and also as usual he makes some good points. (L-2t)

KATUAH JOURNAL #28 ($10/yr from PO Box 638, Leicester, NC 28748): A tabloid which focuses on the bioregion of the Southern Appalachians. #28 is on the theme of Carrying Capacity, and they do a good job of avoiding the pitfalls of a simplistic approach to the topic. While describing some miserable examples of human impact on the wilderness, they also bring forth the notion that a low-impact society could comfortably co-exist with the rest of nature and not require a die-off of the human species. (T-36t)

KETTLE OF FISK #3 (1 stamp from afungusboy, PO Box 134, Brockport, NY 14420): A little medley of words and pictures collaged together to create a world of infinite possibility and infinite confusion. Comes with a bonus piece called **CYCLOPEDIA/DRILL 102** with more of the same. Madness lies close to the surface of apparent meaning here. (D-4)

KILLBABY #4 ($3 from PO Box 742, Stn. Q, Toronto, ONT, M4T 2N5, CANADA): A zine of mostly gory and related movies, but with plenty of other underground popular culture as well. This issue features live music, some pages from Crad Kilodney, and an interview with comics artist Chester Brown as well as a lot of cinema. The latter includes an interview with Jorg Buttgereit as well as plenty of reviews. Getting bigger and better all the time. (D-80t)

KINDRED SPIRITS QUARTERLY #15 ($8/4 issues *CASH* from PO Box 101, Bega, NSW 2550, AUSTRALIA): A pagan networking journal from Australia somewhat similar in tone to the U.S.-based **HARVEST**. They are very good on providing a sense of community and reviewing others' efforts in both zines and books. If you're looking for more pagan contacts in other corners of the world, check into it. (A4-18)

KNUCKLEHEAD PRESS Vol. LIII #1 ($5/yr from 6442 W. 111th St., Worth, IL 60482): A zine of humor in a rather deadpan vein: Abdul-Jabbar playing a praying mantis in a Japanese monster movie, bottled garden hose water, sperm bank wars, an English edition of a newly-commericalized **PRAVDA**, and other goodies are all in this issue. Chucklesome. (S-6t)

☐**KONTROSOL STO CHAOS** #4 ($3 *CASH/stamps* from Paul Avouris, PO Box 31107, Athens GR-100 35, GREECE): A special "Army" issue of this small but attractive Greek-language zine. It's made up of photos of young men in the (I presume) Greek army, in situations from leisure to parade. There's a short essay in the back, but I don't know what it's about. Perfect-bound. (D-50t)

☐**KRYLON UNDERGROUND** July 1990 ($1 from PO Box 5830, Bethesda, MD 20824): A collection of short bits of stuff from the fringes of society. There's a short list of boycotts, some 800 numbers to call, psychedelic quotes, notes on far-out literature available by mail, and so on. Doesn't focus in one place very long, but leaves a trail of intriguing ideas in its wake. (D-20t)

☐**KURLUK NEWSLETTER** July 1990 ($1 from PO Box 6186, Baltimore, MD 21231): This one is mainly ads, both for the magical activities and services of John Kurluk and for newsletters and other things he finds worthwhile. Looks like it could expand to include articles on such topics as magic, herbalism and Tarot. (S-14)

KWATZ! (Contact Joel Biroco, BM Utopia, London WC1N 3XX, UK): Joel asked three questions (in condensed form: "What do you see as being the Great Work? What do you think of karma & reincarnation? What about desire?") of a number of occultists and mystics, and reprints their answers here with commentary. I found the responses from Hakim Bey and Norman Jope most interesting, along with Joel's own commentary. It's not clear whether this is a successor zine to **KAOS** or a one-shot, but it's worth looking into if metaphysical questions in an occult context intrigue you. (A4-26)

☐**THE LABOR REPORT** Vol. 1 #5 ($6/6 issues from Loyola Labor Report c/o Baton Rouge Jobs For Justice, PO Box 3823, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-3823): A fairly aggressive newsletter of labor action from a group working in innovative ways to fight against the bosses. For example, the report on some California pipefitters who trumpet corporate environmental abuses on any project that doesn't get a union contract. They are also active in calling for coalitions between unions instead of each just fighting for their own slice of the pie. (S-8t)

☐**LADIES' FETISH & TABOO SOCIETY COMPENDIUM OF URBAN ANTHROPOLOGY** Vol. III #1 ($1.50 from Lady Kathy, PO Box 542327, Houston, TX 77254-2327): Um. Well, this is in part a collection of strange news stories from urban America: a church service blessing animals, dogs dialing 911, and so on. But there is also a complex mythology surrounding the Ladies and their practices of worship. Then there's the essay on a Basque song and the discussion of an unusual shrine. Real fun but hard to grok. (S-12r)

THE LAND NEWSLETTER Summer 1990 ($10/yr from Ridgehaven, PO Box 849, Glen Ellen, CA 95442): A short newsletter for people interested in getting backwoods land cheap. The author is something of an expert on things like homesteading and tax sales, and he passes on a few promising hints here. There's also a proposal for an intentional community that requires 22 people at $30,000 each to get started. (D-16t)

LAUGHTER WORKS Vol. 2 #2 ($5 from 222 Selby Ranch Rd. #4, Sacramento, CA 95864): This is a newsletter of humor in the workplace. That doesn't mean a collection of office jokes (though some of those appear here as well), but rather ideas on how to use humor to make your work more enjoyable. Mainly directed at corporate environments, but with some hints for more alternative businesses as well. (S-8t)

LEAP OF FAITH #4 ($1 from Weird Calendars, 616 165th Ave. NE, Bellevue, WA 98008): A mix of poetry, art, and comics, together with an opening editorial about NEA funding. The best part is the comic about "Arbo: Space Voyager" who roams the cosmos in a ship made of detergent boxes and a vivid imagination. Paul Weinman and Sigmund Weiss are among the poets here. (S-24)

LEFT BUSINESS OBSERVER #38-39 ($18/11 issues from 250 W. 85th St., New York, NY 10024-3217): A newsletter of radical and alternative views of the business community. #38 contains a remarkable tirade from **WALL STREET JOURNAL** editor Norman Pearlstine, which certainly spices things up. There's also an excellent article by Anita Finkel on the changing nature of secretarial work, another look at deindustrialization, and commentary on such arcana as the Federal Reserve. (S-8t)

☐**LEGAL NOTES** #6-10 (Contact Libertarian Alliance, 1 Russell Chambers, The Piazza, Covent Garden, London WC2E 8AA, ENGLAND): Writings on the law as it is in England and as it should be from a Libertarian point of view. Actually, the most stirring thing here is written by a socialist MP, Tony Benn, who in #6 argues for an end to England's ridiculous blasphemy law. (A4-2t)

☐**LE LOJBO KARNI** #12 ($4 from 2904 Beau Ln., Fairfax, VA 22031): Actually, $4 is enough to get you a complete set of introductory materials on lojban, the artificial language that this is the newsletter for; you can get an introductory brochure for just 50¢. Lojban is designed to be a logical language, and is in the final design stages now. Meanwhile, a growing community of people are learning it to (among other things) help test the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis. I'm fascinated by this project. There are many other publications available from the same address, including the more technical periodical **JU'I LOBYPLI** for those learning the language and a number of research papers and learning aids. (S-8)

THE LETTER EXCHANGE #21 ($7 from PO Box 6218, Albany, CA 94706): If you're one of the holdouts who still loves to write letters but can't find enough kindred spirits, then this is the zine for you. Each issue of LEX (as it is fondly known) carries hundreds of listings from people seeking correspondents. You can respond via the LEX exchange service so that privacy is protected. Interests range from literature to everyday life to someone hoping for a letter from the Marlboro man. Also includes a section of letters about letters. (D-36t)

THE LETTER PARADE June 1990 ($10/yr from PO Box 52, Comstock, MI 49041): I never know what's going to be in these envelopes; the contents change as Bonnie Jo Enterprises gets new ideas about what to publish. June has some travel poems, news clippings, and a story about a pregnant fire (well, something like that). There's also a questionnaire full of embarrassing notions for future issues. (L-6)

LIBERTARIAN FAMILIST Vol. 9 #4 (On Request from PO Box 4826, El Paso, TX 79914-4826): A newsletter for Libertarians who advocate for a strong family and children's rights. #3 is taken up by a book review criticizing some of their ideas, followed by a rebuttal from Tom Tanaka. #4 ranges more widely, with some interesting letter-column interchanges on agorism, protecting children, and other topics. (S-4t)

☐**LIBERTARIAN HERITAGE** #2 (Contact Libertarian Alliance, 1 Russell Chambers, The Piazza, Covent Garden, London, WC2E 8AA, ENGLAND): This occasional paper is on Henry David Thoreau this time around. Author Nick Elliott picks at Thoreau's life and works to claim him as a progenitor of the libertarian tradition, a strong individualist who lived without state interference. I don't exactly find this tack promising, but he at least does show some sort of pattern. (A4-2t)

☐**LIES OF OUR TIMES** Vol. 1 #4 ($2.50 from 145 W. 4th St., New York, NY 10012): The title here is a deliberate play on words, referring both to current events and to the **NEW YORK TIMES**. This magazine tracks the official line of that august paper, and exposes its ability to blatantly ignore some stories (like TV Marti) and cover others in a biased fashion (like the Nicaraguan elections), all the while continuing to be a respected newspaper of record. Interesting rebuttals and other sides abound here. (S-20t)

LIFE ON PLANET EARTH Vol. II #11 (SASE from Embassy of Planet Claire, PO Box 3194, Bellingham, WA 98227): Fanzine reviews and short essays in a generally humorous vein. This issue leads off with a discussion of machine life (technically questionable in spots, but relatively well-written), and then goes on to everything from dishwashers to the abuse of the English language. (S-4t)

☐**LIFWYNN CORRESPONDENCE** Vol. 1 #1 ($7.50/2 issues from The Lifwynn Foundation, 30 Turkey Hill Rd. S, Westport, CT 06880): The Lifwynn Foundation exists to carry on the work of Trigant Burrow in interpersonal analysis; I'm not sure I quite understand what he was getting at. This newsletter is a collection of letters to the Foundation, on such topics as whether thought is addictive and signs of stress and tension in the eyes and face. Looks interesting but difficult. (HL-16t)

☐**LINGUA** #1 (Contact Sarah Ovenall, 703 Ninth St. #235, Durham, NC 27705): A new amateur press association for the discussion of language and linguistics. This includes in the first issue everything from the language backgrounds of SF stories to simplified spelling to computerized grammar checking to the new edition of the OED. I know most of the folks here and they';re a good group, so this should be a fun place if words and their usage fascinates you. (S-38)

LINIE #11 (Contact Marek Karcerowicz, ul. Pustola 25m62, 01-107 Warszawa, POLAND): Someone who reads Polish may be able to figure out what the focus here is; it's not obvious to me. It does seem to be a youthful zine, full of demented collages, with some anarchy and some music content, and a spirit of rebellion. I was pleased to find that Eeyore is apparently a universal symbol. (D-20r)

LINKS Vol. 2 #4 ($5/6 issues from 735 Wolseley Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3G 1C4, CANADA): A Manitoba-centered magazine of peace and social justice issues. They're quite big on environmentalism, encouraging reuse rather than recycling and arguing against a variety of wasteful practices. Anti-nuclear and peace activism also get much space. This issue has a directory of their local activist organizations to make it easy to get involved. (S-32t)

LISFAN Vol. 1 #6 ($5 from Flint Mitchell, 7331 Terri Robyn Dr., St. Louis, MO 63129-5233): A fat zine for fans of the old *Lost In Space* TV series. They feature interviews with script writers, costume designers, composers and others, along with photos, comics, and bits of LIS esoterica and trivia. Pretty classy looking, and judging from the letters there are plenty of other people still interested in this series. (D-100r)

LITERARY MAGAZINE REVIEW Vol. 9 #2 ($4 from The English Department, Denison Hall, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506): A selection of longish essays on various classic literary mags, most of which you won't find in the pages of FF: **THE HUDSON REVIEW, NIMROD,** and **THE VIRGINIA QUARTERLY REVIEW,** for example. The short notices at the end on new journals are a bit more informal and have some names I've seen before. Solid lit-crit that focuses in on some interesting nooks of the small press. (D-64t)

LITERARY MARKETS #52 ($15/yr from Bill Marles, PO Drawer 1310, Point Roberts, WA 98281-1310): This is a quick survey of literary markets, both paying and non-paying. Bill gets a dozen or two listings into each issue, along with news of anthologies and contests. (S-6t)

LITTLE FREE PRESS #74-76 (25¢ postage from RT. 1 Box 102, Cushing, MN 56443): Ernest Mann is a dreamer, and his dream is of a world without economics. He's stopped supporting the system by simply becoming a dropout, finding ways to live without money and urging others to do the same. It may not work for everyone, but his ideas and urges ring a bell with some people. #74 gives concrete ideas for preparing to drop out of the Rat Race. #76 reports progress towards redefining life and getting his book ready to send out. (S-2)

LIVING AMONG NATURE DARINGLY #12 ($9/5 issues from Bill Anderson, 4466 Ike Mooney Rd., Silverton, OR 97381): A zine for people who want to get back to the land and are interested in solid how-to information. This ranges from building log cabins to setting up live traps for animals (they've decided to no longer print articles on leghold traps). There's also an interview in this issue with Jerry Belanger, publisher of **COUNTRYSIDE** magazine. (S-32t)

LIVING FREE #57 ($1.25 [cash preferred] from Jim Stumm, PO Box 29, Hiler Branch, Buffalo, NY 14223): A fine issue of Jim's self-reliant libertarian newsletter. I definitely appreciated both his piece on the DEA's nutbar hydroponics raids and the roundup of other Libertarian press. There are also notes on island and ocean living, Paul Doerr with another cranky proposal, and notes on self-reliance books worth reading. (S-8r)

LIVING LOVE Spring 1990 (Donation from PO Box 11919, Pueblo, CO 81001-1919): This is the newsletter of Port Centauri, an attempt to establish a New Age community on a ranch in Colorado. There's lots of talk here of energy vortices and medicine wheels and positive energy, plus a few very concrete ideas for future development. (S-4t)

☐**LIVIN' IN A POWDER KEG AND GIVIN' OFF SPARKS** #7 (Write for free information from Full Force Productions, 453 Bay Ridge Ave. #614, Brooklyn, NY 11220): There's a disclaimer to sign before you can even consider subscribing here, so do drop them a line if you're interested. The subject is the nasty side of life: mass murder, torture, sick sex, foot fetishes, auto-erotic asphyxiation, and more. It's a medley of stories and photos and drawings, most extracted from other sources, with the editor's psychopathic comments occasionally inserted. Strong stuff, for adults only. (S-72t)

LIZZENGREASY Vol. 1 #5 ($1 from c/o Fletcher, Shuhoso #8B, Umegaoka 1-56-4, Setegaya-Ku, Tokyo 154, JAPAN): A zine that pulls together Japanese culture and random expatriate views into a series of theme issues. #5 is on "love", with the editor's love interfering with publication, a "How to Find Love" guide, and reviews of cheap-o romance novels. (S-16r)

LOAFING THE DONKEY #32 ($1 from 123 Stonewall #1, Memphis, TN 38104): A zine of movies and other manifestations of popular culture. Almost all of #32 is devoted to baseball movies, from *Angels in the Outfield* to *Field of Dreams*. A well-done theme issue. (D-16r)

LOLA FISH #6 ($2 from Bruno Pommey, 36 res. Jean Macé, 28300 Mainvilliers, FRANCE): An international journal of mail art and related topics. Bruno prints a batch of art, and contact addresses for upcoming shows. He also reviews a fair pile of zines, many of them European items not found in FF. Available in either French or English editions. (A4-20)

☐**THE LONESOME NODE** Vol. 9 #5 ($10/yr from Ozark Center for Language Studies, PO Box 1137, Huntsville, AR 72740): A newsletter of linguistics and the real world, written by Suzette Haden Elgin. Her own "Gentle Art of Verbal Self-Defense" plays a central role, but I'll need a few more issues to figure out what that is. Meanwhile, I can certainly appreciate the notes on the use of language in relation to women, doctors, religion and other areas. Lots of short quotes and sensible commentary here. (S-19)

LONGEVITY REPORT #21 9$14.67/6 issues from J. de Rivaz, c/o Reeves Telecommunications, West Towan House, Porthtowan, Truro, Cornwall, TR4 8AX, UK): An international newsletter for people interested in cryonics and immortalism. They cover the doings of various cryonics groups, as well as interesting medical and social news. #21 has more on the first Norwegian cryonics suspension and Bob Brakeman writing about Thor Heyerdahl's lesson for cryonicists. (A4-20t)

☐**LOST HORIZON NEWSLETTER** August 1990 (A couple stamps from J.W. Smith #44190, PO Box 2, Lansing, KS 66043): This one is published from behind prison walls in Kansas. It opens with an essay about the chances for positive change and resistance here (not good, feels the editor). There's also a list of pen pals which you can get on by sensing 4 25¢ stamps. (S-4)

THE LOST PERUKE #XX ($6.50/6 issues from PM Kellerman, PO Box 1525, Highland Park, NJ 08904): Humor with an eye towards current events and politics. In #XX, for example, one short bit compares Drug Czar William Bennett and Bart Simpson as role models, while a later page lists reasons not to publish poetry. Rather mainstream. (D-32)

LOVE AND RAGE Vol. 1 #3 ($1 from PO Box 3, Prince St. Sta., New York, NY 10012): There are some good sections in L&R: the Anarchist Black Cross page and the On Gogol Boulevard section in this issue both present current issues with a minimum of ideological bullshit and revolutionary rhetoric, though they need to be judged at least in part by the company they're willing to keep. The same cannot be said of the main paper, which seems to see The Revolution starting in every police beating, riot, protest or anarchist bull session. The most embarassing page in #3 is their recounting of the Earth Day Wall Street action, a mix of exaggerated self-importance and Autonomen-worship. (T-24t)

LOVERS REVOLT #6 ($1 from PO Box 6402, Minneapolis, MN 55406): A zine of quotes and reviews, mostly directed at increasing the amount of love in the world. There's a sort of old Hippie flavor to this, a hope that if only people will kick back and think for a moment we won't be so crazy. Maybe so. (D-20)

LUCID #51 ($6/6 issues from Dale Adams, 3041 Stanton Cir., Carmichael, CA 95608): The newsletter of the Truth SIG of Mensa has been suffering from a lack of original material lately, and in fact the bulk of this issue is a reprint of a chapter from**THE ART OF UNDERSTANDING YOURSELF**. There's also the beginning of an article on the state of schizophrenics. (D-20t)

THE MADISON INSURGENT Vol. 4 #1-2 ($15/yr from PO Box 704, Madison, WI 53701): A community newspaper anchored in the left consciousness of Madison. Most of #1 is a special bit of muckraking, a look at the local Women's Fund Inc. which doesn't seem to be doing too much for women. They also publish a local calendar, political news and more. #2 reports on another urban renewal program involving razing a working class neighborhood. (T-8t)

A MADMAN'S DREAM Vol. II #3 (75¢ from 6934 Calvin Ave., Reseda, CA 91335): A medley of short stories, rants, poems and graphics; they print most everything that gets sent in. There's a poem inspired by White Boy, reviews of LA area coffeehouses, some vintage Bertrand Russell, and nasty thoughts about the connection between music and activism. (S-12r)

MAILING LIST TIDBITS Vol. III #6 ($60/24 issues from Letter Perfect, 4205 Menlo Dr., Baltimore, MD 21215): You can get a free sample if you drop 'em a line and say you saw it in **FACTSHEET FIVE**. This is a newsletter directed at people who promote their products via direct mail. It contains hints about the mechanics of doing so as well as notes on where to start looking for that perfect mailing list you need. (S-4t)

MAINE IN PRINT Vol. V #5 ($20/yr from MWPA, 19 Mason St., Brunswick, ME 04011): A support publication for those who write and read in Maine. They feature Maine books for sale at discount to subscribers, reviews, and articles on the art and craft of writing. #5 has a talk with Lois Lowry, a successful author of children's books. (T-12t)

MALCONTENT #24 ($2.50 from Laura Poll, PO Box 703, Navesink, NJ 07752): A litzine which asks contributors to include personal notes and so ensures that only work from those really interested in communication will appear. This issue includes poems by Stacey Sollfrey and Paul Weinman, part of a serialized story by Sigmund Weiss, and some fascinating self-portrait photography by Joy Mishkin. A friendly and lovingly-edited zine. (S-50)

□**MANDRAGORA** #1 ($4 from Pl 452, 00101 Helsinki, FINLAND): A pagan zine which is rather difficult for me to review, since the contents (apart from an occasional proper name) are entirely in Finnish. There are plenty of graphics, from the hand-colored cover through lots of photographs. Seems to focus on their local traditions and heritage, and would make a lovely enigmatic coffee-table object in most American households. (A4-32)

□**THE MANIC DEPRESSIVE CLAUSTROPHOBIC BOOK OF FUN** #2-3 ($1 from Eric Bartoszak, 13411 Pitch Pine Ct., Chantilly, VA 22021): A collection of scribbles and clippings that flow together without much apparent direction. Eric wanders from short music reviews to weird profiles of beautiful people to Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. Non-linear confusion. #3 adds in more music and zine reviews and has a poem about shooting up with Cheez Whiz. (S-7)

MARGARET FREEMAN DIGEST Vol. 2 #6-7 (A couple IRCs from Mielle Christophe, 182 Ave jean Lolive, 93500 Pantin, FRANCE): A medley of networking, mail art, strange music, and so on. They reprint stuff from all over, comics, Annie Sprinkle finger puppets, ads for zines, and so on. Everything sent for review is also reviewed over alternative radio in France and will be included in a future sourcebook. Lots of US addresses here.(S-8r)

□**MASSACRE** #1 ($4 from Farrel Mock, 2860 Mark Ave., Windsor, ONT, N9E 2W7, CANADA): An annual literary anthology of "anti-naturalistic fiction" published in England each Valentine's Day. There are screwy stories here from such people as Maxim Décharné and Frank Key, as well as a bizarre sadomasochistic Disney episode from Dermot Todd. Literary criticism and book reviews also appear. A little of this will make your head hurt; a lot is liable to send you off into another dimension entirely. (D-48t)

□**MATERIAL FOR THOUGHT** #12 ($9.20 from PO Box 549, San Francisco, CA 94101): A serious journal ideas and book reviews related to "the inner search for one's Self". It's a fascinating mix, with a tilt towards Eastern and Western esoteric thought: Gurdjieff and Rinpoche, for example. One of the more interesting bits is an interview with Pauline de Dampierre, a modern worker in the tradition of Gurdjieff. There's also a review of Hawking's **BRIEF HISTORY OF TIME**, followed by a short exchange of letters with Professor Hawking. (D-90t)

□**MATRIX JOURNAL** Vol. 1 #1 ($10 from Matrix Software, 315 Marion Ave., Big Rapids, MI 49307): A new technical astrological journal for astrologers with some background in the mathematical and physical sciences. Those without such background will find this tough going, with philosophy of science and relativity being thrown in for good measure. There is some orderly investigation here of possible mechanisms for physical effects on earth due to planetary movements, though I as yet remain unconvinced—either way. (S-43t)

□**MAVERICK** #10 (The Usual from Jenny Glover, 16 Aviary Place, Leeds LS12 2NP, West Yorkshire, UK): A science fiction zine where the writers are fairly drowning in style—that, along with the focus on a fandom I only vaguely know, makes it largely opaque to me. Between illustrations from old numbers of **PUNCH** there are con reports, fanzine reviews, fan views of the China situation, and locs on the previous issue of a year before. Seems intriguing, but I wanted a guide or at least a map. (A4-16r)

MAX(ine)'S TWO PAGES #8 ($1 from Crystal Rain Agency, PO Box 866, Manchester,. GA 31816): Actually, #8 is two pages plus one. Mostly it's a list of racist incidents in the mid-sixties, followed by notes on some of the racist tensions of today. There apparently has been progress and change, and Max(ine) looks at this a bit, coming to the conclusion that we may even have something to learn from the White Racist activists. (S-3)

MEN TALK Vol. 14 #2 ($14/4 issues from The Men's Center, 3255 Hennepin Ave. S #45, Minneapolis, MN 55408): A journal for men involved in the multi-faceted men's movement, which encompasses everything from strong spirituality to gay parenting. This issue is mostly devoted to fathers and fathering, with first-person essays from men conscious of the challenges and successes of their lives. They also host plenty of activities locally. (S-24t)

MENTERTAINMENT June 1990 ($1.85 & Age Statement from PO Box 9445, Elizabeth, NJ 07202): A magazine for patrons of go-go, topless, and nude bars, It's growing to feature quite a lot of letters (from both customers and dancers) as well as schedules and publicity pictures of various dancers. Every issue includes a directory of places to go all over the Northeast. (S-32t)

MESSAGE POST July 1990 ($1 from PO Box 190, Philomath, OR 97370): A newsletter for folks who are into portable dwellings and living lightly—everything from extended camping out to moving around by motor-home or boat (though they concentrate on the simpler, lower-tech alternatives). Most is excerpts from reader letters, with suggestions and questions on insect control, food storage, tipis, community design, bicycle care, emergency first aid, and more. Their centerfold is a good source of more contacts in the area. (D-20r)

MESSIAH #1 ($3 from Jef Williams, PO Box 10035, Winston-Salem, NC 27108): A zine with a little bit of a lot of things. There are reviews of zines and movies (provocatively rated on a graphic scale of 1-5 "dicks"), short fiction, an interview with Fred Pohl, and an article on the joys of being represented by Jesse Helms. Anti-racist work, "Was Jesus the First Body Piercer" and Rocky Horror material also creep in. Alternately delightful and offensive. (D-32r)

MEZLIM Vol. 1 #2 ($4 from N'Chi, PO Box 19566, Cincinnati, OH 45219): A journal of magick and related esoterica which is both interesting and well-produced. In this issue we get the basic structure of the Thelemic Order of the Golden Dawn, some Cthulhu-mythos comics, an amusing look at battling groups in the past, several rituals, and wild astrology by Antero Alli. Mind-stretching in the extreme, and possibly somewhat more politically correct than your average magickal project. (S-56t)

MGM June-July/Aug. 1990 (SASE (?) from PO Box 1124, Keene, NH 03431): The newsletter of Monadnock Gay Men, a weekly group that meets in the Keene area. There's not a lot here for outsiders, though they do print a handy list of phone numbers of major media in the July/August issue, in case you want to call and complain about prejudiced coverage. (S-4)

MICROFICTIONS #2 (50¢ (?) from Erik Kosberg, 2701 Colfax Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN 55408): A single story—but then, that's about all you can fit on one side of a postcard. This time it's "So", by Larry Oberc, a fast-moving tale of nastiness in the big city streets. (M-2t)

MICROWAVE NEWS Vol. X #3 ($130/6 months from PO Box 1799, Grand Central Sta., New York, NY 10163): A technical roundup covering research on sources of low-level non-ionizing radiation—things like power lines and electric blankets. The main topic in the current issue is an EPA report that would have classified extremely low frequency electromagnetic fields as "probable human carcinogens". Excerpts from the study are reprinted along with the story of why it was changed. (S-16t)

MIND X #4-5 ($1 & Age Statement from 440 N. Water St., Lancaster, PA 17603): A zine of grossness, poetry, and media images. The mysterious X puts together cutup versions of PENTHOUSE letters, pictures of grossly-dead corpses, poetry from Sigmund Weiss and Paul Weinman, and curious short stories. Short on redeeming social value. #5 has a GG Allin pinup and a selection of official phone numbers to harass. (D-20)

MINI EXAMINER Vol. 12 #5-8 ($9/12 issues from Irene Hamlen Stephenson, PO Box 3893, Chatsworth, CA 91313): A newsletter of biorhythm character and compatability analysis. Though there is a mathematical basis here, mostly the profiles and marriage evaluations strike me as shrewd application of open-ended ideas, similar to good astrology. There are insights here, but I remain agnostic on their truth and their source. (S-4)

MISC. #46 ($6/yr from Clark Humphrey, 1630 Boylston #203, Seattle, WA 98122): A collection of news and opinion centered on the Seattle area but written well and humorously enough to be amusing elsewhere. Clark talks about overdevelopment, marketing gone insane, punk singers, Tina Chopp, and whatever other pieces of culture catch his eye. I like this. (S-2t)

□**THE MISSING LINK** March-Graduation 1990 ($1 (?) from Student Activities Center, Duke University, Durham, NC 27706): A leftist student paper that covers a wide range of bases, with reprints from all over the place. They get into everything from Central America to the Wall Street Action to the essential vapidity of college graduations. One fun and novel feature is the "Who Said That?" section of quotes with multiple guesses as to who's responsible. And their Graduation issue features interesting words from just plain folks. (T-16t)

MISSISSIPPI MUD #35 ($5 from The Mega-Weinstein Group, 1336 SE Marion St., Portland, OR 97202): A large-format and somewhat obtuse litmag. It starts out with a bizarre deranged moose cover and just gets stranger, with stories, poems, photos and drawings that all avoid the literary conventions you learned in junior high school. As confusing as real life, and as interesting too. (O-48t)

MODOM #4 (25¢ & SASE from Jake Berry, Abscond, PO Box 3112, Florence, AL 35630): A sporadic collection of experioddical verse and drawings. Jake publishes everything from John Bennett calligraphy to Malok's scatalogical-scientific poetry to original deranged drawings. It's all laid out poster fashion, and if you put this up on your door it should do an apt job of confusing your callers. (O-1)

MONGO STACK Vol. 1 #2-4 ($10/6 months from 487 Lakeshore Park Rd., Boulder, CO 80302): A humor tabloid which has flashes of seriousness, as with the plug for the Hunter Thompson Defense Fund in #2. (Hunter is off the hook now, by the way). And a lot of the humor is somewhat pointed; it's clear that they don't think much of the War on Drugs. On the other hand, some bits are just plain silly, as with the news on traffic law enforcement and stealth cops here. Urine testing and the Church of the SubGenius make it into #3. (T-16t)

MONKEYWRENCH #3 ($2 from Phoenix Michael, PO Box 92007, Santa Barbara, CA 93190-2007): A journal of social justice and radical art and poetry. There's an open letter here to George Bush that calls him all sorts of names, a comic about the demise of democracy, and an essay on media bias. Central America and animal rights are among the other issues you'll find here. (HL-20t)

MONSTER #33-37 ($10/24 issues from Timothy Paxton, MPO Box 67, Oberlin, OH 44074-0067): A newsletter devoted solely to monster movies: "none of that slasher stuff". #33 has a bunch of mummy films in it. Along with lots of reviews, #35 has a special report on Italian monster movies. #36 looks at some of the hot new monster releases of this year, including *Nightbreed* and *Basketcase* 2. (D-8t)

MONSTERS & MOVIES #3 (25¢ & SASE from Peripheral Press, 5300 Ehret Rd., Marrero, LA 70072): A double-spaced ramble through a few strange movies. The editor seems to have a yen for campy stuff, reviewing the Doc Savage movie and the remake of *Invaders From Mars* favorably in this issue. Includes a reprint of a tabloid article about a sea monster menacing part of France. (S-6)

□**THE MOTORCYCLE PILOT** Vol. III #5 ($5/yr from PO Box 1318, Crystal River, FL 32629-1318): A tabloid aimed at the non-outlaw segment of the motorcycle world. They feature press releases and news stories from all over, many dealing with legislative restrictions on motorcycles (helmet laws are a big issue right now). There is also social coverage and an extensive calendar of upcoming events. (T-36)

THE MOUTH OF SAURON Vol. 6 #8/9 ($1 from Paul Gardener, PO Box 97, Brattleboro, VT 05031): Paul is the US agent for this UK Diplomacy zine, which actually covers a number of other games and hobbies as well. It contains a batch of "subzines", two or three pages by other people, on topics as diverse as SF and bridge. Postal Diplomacy strategy and variants are discussed at length, as they remain the main focus. (D-40r)

MSRRT NEWSLETTER Vol. 3 #5-6 (45¢ postage from Chris Dodge/Jan DeSirey, 4645 Columbus Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN 55407): A mostly-review newsletter directed at socially-conscious librarians. Besides encapsulating many alternative publications, it tracks some of the movement within the profession for more social responsibility and mentions various interesting events and books. (S-16)

MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SELF-HELP PROJECT NEWSLETTER Vol. 4 #5 (On Request from PO Box 7573, Berkeley, CA 94707): A grassroots newsletter for people affected by MS. This issue leads off with a list of resources gleaned from recent mail, and then reviews a couple of books. Bare bones but useful and focused information. (S-3t)

MURDER CAN BE FUN #12 ($1 from John Marr, PO Box 640111, San Francisco, CA 94109): This morbid little zine has good coverage of the event which delayed its publications—the SF Earthquake of '89. Other than that, it's mainly devoted to "The Art of Murder", with stories on the William Wallace case (a strange and unsolved mystery), some apocryphal Scots cannibals, and De Quincey's observations on the murder as a fine art. Marr writes well of nasty subjects, and reviews plenty of books for those with similar interests. (D-32r)

MUSEUM INSIGHTS Vol. 2 #3 ($5 from PO Box 313, North Amherst, MA 01059): I always sort of vaguely knew there were lots of offbeat and wonderful museums out there—now, thanks to the meticulous work of editor Nancy Frazier, I know where to find them. #3 has a museum devoted to Jean Cocteau, James Deering's Miami-area estate, the story of the famous Nefertiti bust, and much more. A class act. (S-8t)

□**MUSHROOM MAIL** #2 (Probably 2 IRCs from Woody CC, 44 Rue de Lourmel 75015 Paris, FRANCE): This issue consists of a large sheet of paper intricately folded into an envelope (an amazing transformation). Inside there is some slightly askew text (with handwritten corrections) and two gaudy, full-color Indian graphics mounted onto the page. Although the magazine is all in French and has a Paris address, this copy was mailed directly from India, where the editor had been visiting and from which the inspiration for this issue came. This issue tells the tale of Woody CC's travels in India and Tibet ("the land of pink elephants"), and all of it is good-natured, most of it poking fun at things, such as when he reports on his chance to become a disciple of Shree Lal Bas, who might have been a local reincarnation of Salvador Dali. Most of it is touristy travel tales, with the mention of Bhopal and its aftermath striking the only somber note. (O-2) (Guest review by Geof Huth)

NAKED LADIES DANCE #5 ($1 from PO Box 1148, W. Warwick, RI 02893): A fanzine for folks who enjoy strippers. The majority of this issue is reprints of ads and promotional photos of strippers from a variety of clubs. There are also a few letters discussing the scene in specific cities. (D-20r)

NANCY'S MAGAZINE ($2 from Nancy Bonnell-Kangas, PO Box 02108, Columbus, OH 43202): Back again after too long an absence (well, really only about six months), this is the special "Informational & Inspirational Tract Issue". Inside the covers is a pocket filled with small pamphlets, including a real live religious tract. Several others are close parodies, but of course they stray farther afield. Nancy herself presents a history of tracts and the like, Susan Hessler writes about tofu cookery, and David Fair demonstrates that anyone can draw horses, among the other possibilities here. (various)

N'APA #124 (Contact Tim Gatewood, PO Box 12921, Memphis, TN 38182-0921): An amateur press association directed somewhat at people just getting involved with this form of writing. Centered in science fiction fandom, N'APA tends to be high on pleasant chat and low on death feuds. The lack of friction does not mean lack of interest; get involved and you'll find a whole new batch of friends to talk to. (S-142)

THE NATIONALIST #53-54 ($15/12 issues from National Democratic Front, PO Box 30505, Knoxville, TN 37930): The NDF is one of our home-grown fascist parties, though they prefer words like "sharism" and "racialism" and "democratic nationalism". They want the US to be split up into different nations for different races, with their own strong white one to lead the way. I'm not impressed. For $2 you can get a copy of their program and see whether you are. (S-8t)

NAUGHTY NAKED DREAMGIRLS #5 ($1 & Age Statement from Andrew Roller, PO Box 221295, Sacramento, CA 95822): This one is a continuing serial of kinky sadomasochistic adventures, taking place in a huge and mysterious mansion. Alicia gets further initiated by the mistress of the place, Lilith, in this episode, and helps out at a party designed to turn men into sex objects. Also features comic reviews by Lynn Hansen. (S-10t)

N D 13 ($3 from PO Box 4144, Austin, TX 78765): An international magazine of contacts in mail art, experimental music, small press, performance art, and other oddball fields. There's a strong European flavor to this issue, since editor Daniel Plunkett recently visited over there. Interviews include Monochrome Bleu, PGR, De Media, and Metro Riquet. Lots and lots of contact addresses as well. This is an essential networking tool. (HL-44r)

NEOLOGY #70 (C$3.50 from ESFACAS, Box 4071 PSSE, Edmonton, Alberta, T6E 4S8, CANADA): A long-running science fiction clubzine. Much of the content here is definitely Canadian, with discussions of conventions in the Great White North and so on. But they also review wargames and books, print light bulb jokes, and even sneak in a wee bit of poetry. The trivia quiz in this issue is tough enough that I only know 1 answer out of 5. (S-34t)

NES-BITS (Trade only from Neal, PO Box 36, Libertyville, IL 60048): This one discusses future zine plans for Neal and gives a rundown on past works that are still available. There's some fresh art here and ruminations on the cooperative nature of the small press. (S-2)

NESPIT LAWNEEL PRESENTS #23 ($1 (?) from Neal, PO Box 36, Libertyville, IL 60048): A collection of obscure texts (except for Michael Behaviour's words on Dada, which are actually pretty clear) and confusing art. Found poetry, staring strange people, deranged scribbles. (D-12)

☐**THE NEW AGE PROFESSIONAL Vol. 2 #2** ($5.50 from Deva Communications, 16222 Landmark, Whittier, CA 90604): A trade newsletter aimed at New Agers who want to go from being seekers to being practitioners. They try to strike a balance between general metaphysical articles, notes on particular essays, and things like "Increasing Your Income by Transforming Your Consciousness". Their approach doesn;t do much for me, but others will no doubt find useful tidbits here. (S-12t)

☐**NEW ANARCHIST REVIEW #15** (£1.50/4 issues from 84b Whitechapel High Street, London E1, UK): This is really more of a book catalog than a zine, but it is available by subscription and contains a few things beyond bare listings. There are short (one-paragraph) reviews of the items they sell, most of which are available through A Distribution and AK Press. Shipping costs to the US are generally not listed. (D-16t)

THE NEW CRUCIBLE Mar.-Apr. 1990 ($6 from Garry De Young, PO Box 7252, Spencer, IA 51301): Mainly a magazine about environmental issues and composed largely of official state press releases, but you never know what will be around the corner of the next page. For one thing, Garry tends to present the results of his ongoing legal battles here as well. (S-52t)

NEW ENVIRONMENT BULLETIN #173-175 ($6.50/yr from Bill Case, 120 Academy St., Manlius, NY 13104): You have to give these people credit for persistence. They've been working towards a vision of sustainable human community for over a decade and appear prepared to spend decades more on it if necessary. Right now their activities center on an active meeting schedule, but fundraising and plans for land and buildings continue. Good attempts to pull together the pieces of the big picture are a constant feature here. (S-6t)

NEW FORCES June 1990 ($5/yr from 6505 E. Central #176, Wichita, KS 67206): A small newsletter of political essays. The June essay looks at a recent Earth First! protest (concluding "I'll support EF's Redwood Summer Action when they support Operation Rescue) and the politics of Le Pen in France. (S-4)

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE Vol. 234 #3 ($5/8 issues from 37 Skunk Farm Rd., Hillsborough, NH 03244): A broadside newspaper in the old tradition of trying to knit a community together and rake some muck. They are much concerned with issues like veterans' affairs, the environment and the plutocratic control of most of the press (present company excepted, of course!). Could be a hit in this still fiercely-independent state. ()-2t)

NEW LIBERTARIAN #183 ($1 from NLCo, 17220 Newhope #120, Fountain Valley, CA 92708): At long last another issue of NL is out, with the usual strengths and weaknesses. Strengths: entertaining writing (sadly truncated) from Robert Anton Wilson and strong (though late) advocacy of census resistance. Weaknesses: Sam Konkin's continuing belief that his brand of left libertarianism actually has any substantial impact on world politics, and incredibly Byzantine accounts of Movement politics. Interesting reading, but buy single issues rather than subscribing; the publication schedule has been slipshod for years now. (S-8t)

NEW PATHWAYS #17 ($4.50 from MGA Services, PO Box 863994, Plano, TX 75086-3994): Despite various bad reviews and complaints, Michael Adkisson continues to try to incorporate movie reviews and more art and music into this mostly-SF zine; he recognizes that the

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synthesis isn't there yet, but isn't giving up. I wish him luck, but meanwhile I'll stick with stories such as Andy Watson's "The Hero" and Steve Rasnic Tem's "The Visible Man" as the best part of the magazine. Certainly it has consistently done interesting cutting-edge fiction and commentary, and this hasn't changed with the addition of other things. (S-52t)

NEWS & LETTERS Vol. 35 #5-6 ($2.50/yr from 59 E. Van Buren #707, Chicago, IL 60605): The premier (so far as I know, the only) journal of Marxist-Humanism in the USA. They're heavily into labor analysis, feminism, and revolutions around the world, and tend to see everything as hopeful signs that the system is starting to crack. Too doctrinaire for me. (T-12t)

THE NEW SETTLER INTERVIEW #50 ($10/12 issues from PO Box 730, Willits, CA 95490): #50 of this zine from Northern California is a mixed bag. It has some of the earliest news I got on the car-bombing of Earth First! organizers Judi Bari and Darryl Cherney, interviews with various folks running for local office, and a talk with a guy who hunts down feral pigs. Life is crazy and sometimes scary, but the people here are worth listening to. (S-64t)

NEWS FROM APROVECHO #36 (Contact Aprovecho Institute, 80574 Hazelton Rd., Cottage Grove, OR 97424): I say "contact" because they don't sell subscriptions; this only goes to people who are truly interested in the work of Aprovecho. They are on a dual track, setting up a community with sustainable farming in Oregon and at the same time helping various third world communities with sustainable development in their own countries. Exciting, and they seem to have come a long way in the past decade. (S-16r)

NEWS FROM EREWHON (75¢ *CASH/stamps* or The Usual from Bob Black, PO Box 2159, Albany, NY 12220): A few pages of reprints of work by and about Bob that have appeared in other media recently, plus his latest rant. This one is mainly devoted to the mail bomb he received last year, and the coverup he accuses the underground media of—I personally am the prime villain in this piece. His accusations against me are the expected mix of facts, innuendo and distortion, and I'll be happy to discuss them with anyone who really cares, but frankly, I don't see it as being anything to get worked up over. Worth getting to wallow in his usual clever invective, and his reprint "No Future for the Workplace" deserve to be read. (S-6r)

NEWSLETTER WITH NO NAME Vol. 2 #6 ($6 to $30/yr [your choice] from Rosemary West, PO Box 8059, Mission Hills, CA 91346): A place for essays of intelligent opinion and argumentation on a variety of subjects. In #6 Tim Donovan promotes his theory that a reversal of values is needed, Kevin Langdon comments on population control, and Edson Blodgett compares computers and Christianity. Always a few things to disagree with here. (S-7t)

☐**NEWS OF THE WEIRD** #1 ($8/7 issues from Chuck Shepherd, PO Box 57141, Washington, DC 20037): A collection of columns from Chuck, who used to put out **VIEW FROM THE LEDGE**. This is in the same vein, strange but true news items from around the world. A random browsing shows Fundamentalist politics, cactus rustlers, bungling criminals and National Condom Week. (S-4t)

☐**NEWSY VENTS** Vol. 47 #3 ($8/yr from Maher Studios, PO Box 420, Littleton, CO 80160): There are publications out there for *everyone*—this one is for ventriloquists from beginning to experienced. Various columnists discuss the selection of dummies or puppets, how to get started, places to consider performing, and more. There's a straightforward delight in being entertaining here which is quite catching. (D-20t)

NEW UNIONIST #155-156 ($3/10 issues from 621 W. Lake St. #210, Minneapolis, MN 55408): Socialist and syndicalist views on current politics, concentrating recently on the teetering state of the economy. #155 ranges from the coming recession in America to the situation in South Korea. #156 has several pieces on the difference between progressive grassroots unionism and greedy sellouts in big union jobs. (T-4t)

A NEW WORLD RISING #13 (Donation from Box 33, 77 Ives St., Providence, RI 02906): A zine of networking and hope that is based loosely in the Deadhead Community. Tens of thousands of copies of this tabloid get handed out, and lots of people seem to like it. They print mostly short bits of letters, encouraging activists to get in touch with one another, and favoring ecological thinking and independence. (T-8r)

☐**NEW YOUTH** #1 (25¢ from Tom Rainey, 428 College Ave. #9, DeKalb, IL 60115): That's the cover price; I would suggest adding about 50¢ for postage. This is a new zine for high school and university students interested in political action, informed by a variety of generally Marxist points of view. Pieces here range from an overview of international political change to concrete discussions of actions at particular high schools. (S-20t)

THE NOCTURNAL LYRIC #16 ($1.25 from Susan, PO Box 2602, Pasadena, CA 91102-2602): A little litzine that has built up a nice stable of bizarre writers. This issue includes Kimberly Heart's modern terror-story "What Is It Like" and a cute fantasy cryonics story by James V. Burchill. They also feature poetry and a few drawings. (D-24r)

☐**NO MORE CENSORSHIP FACT SHEET** #4 (50¢ from PO Box 11458, San Francisco, CA 94101): The production of the No More Censorship defense fund, formed in the wake of the Frankenchrist arrests. They're an excellent source of news on topics as diverse as record labelling, NEA funding, and censorship of school newspapers. Grassroots activism for those who care about our civil liberties. (S-16t)

NOOK NEWS Vol. 6 #1 ($4 from 38114 Third St. #181, Willoughby, OH 44094): A market and advice bulletin for writers. They wander off into affiliated topics from time to time, as with the basics on taking photos to go with your stories in this issue. There's a list of upcoming conferences, grammar tips, some rudimentary tax information, and of course notes on markets and contests. (S-12t)

THE NOOK NEWS MARKET BULLETIN Vol. 2 #1 ($4 from 38114 Third St. #181, Willoughby, OH 44094): A market listing for writers with the emphasis on photojournalism. However this emphasis is the result of editor Steven Arts who has now departed, so who knows what will happen next. If you're a photojournalist you might send for this specific issue. (D-12t)

NOOZ #26-27 ($6/yr from PO Box 732, Akron, OH 44309): "The Pop Culture Journal" tends a bit towards music but wanders around as well. #26 has a history of Jimmy Buffett as well as a centerfold spread of Kent State and Vietnam. #27 reminisces about good times in the bleachers at Cleveland's municipal stadium. They also feature an odd mix of comics including "Ninja Busboy". (S-16r)

NORTHERN SUN NEWS Vol. 13 #4 ($10/yr from 1519 E. Franklin Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55404): A monthly journal of social and anti-nuclear activism. They cover some day-after-Earth-Day stuff in this issue I hadn't been aware of, along with the dangers of "Special Waste", the drive to shut down the NEA, and more. A good survey through current good causes. (T-12t)

NOSE #7 ($5 from Ethan Pettit, 209 Bedford Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11211): "Oversize" is an understatement here; even folded, this 3'x4' silk-screened posterzine is too large for a file folder. NOSE comes out of the art underground of New York and elsewhere, regaling the reader with revolutionary photos, name-dropping gossip, modern nihilism; texts in strange languages, musical scores, theory, praxis, aesthetics and design. It's a wonderful piece of graphic literary critical artistic work, and deserves to hang on walls all over America. (O-1t)

NOTES FROM THE DUMP #72-73 ($20/yr from Terry Ward, PO Box 39, Acworth, NH 03601): Rambles and essays from Terry. He's as likely to tell you about owning a new Harley as about running the dump or life in the sixties or enjoying classical music. Little bits of observations of life, interspersed with ads from local purveyors of goods and services. (S-6)

NOVA SF #2 ($4 from G. Grant, Edge Detector, PO Box 1408, Stn. A, London, ONT, N6A 5M2, CANADA): Grant is the North American agent for this SF zine published in Britain by Adrian Hodges. This issue seems to be laden with death, with the most convoluted and fascinating being that in David William Sheridan's "Clone", an examination of life and identity in the future. There is further editorial attention to just what SF is anyhow, a poetry section featuring John Francis Haines, and several more stories. (D-44t)

NRG #32 ($2 from 6735 SE 78th St., Portland, OR 97206): This project is winding down, with the next issue to be the last, but meanwhile it is still an excellent nexus in the world of experimental literature. Willie Smith, Greg Evason, Jake Berry, Mike Miskowski...the names could go on, but the point is that cutting-edge people are at home here. The tabloid is a mix of concrete and experimental poetry, collage, computer art, strange short stories, and even reviews of similar (& different) work. Get it while you can. (T-16)

NU #7 (15 fr. from Xavier Bouyguesm 16 rue de la Pinsonniere, 77680 Roissy in Brie, FRANCE): Xavier specializes in harsh black abstract paintings, with huge swaths of black dripping down over more intricately lined backgrounds. This magazine remains entirely his own work, and after seven issues without much progress I'm starting to wonder why. (A4-10)

√ OBSCURE PUBLICATIONS AND VIDEO #6 ($1 from PO Box 1334, Milwaukee, WI 53201): This is my competition, sort of. Editor Jim Romanesko reviews some zines, gives short notices of others, and pens feature articles about one or two per issue. Fee ad space for loaner videotapes, a growing classified column and an eye for the outrageous and bizarre make this a zine to watch. (S-8t)

☐THE OBSERVATION WARD #17 ($6/6 issues from Donald B. Ward, Pal Alhambra 56, 999 E. Valley Blvd., Alhambra, CA 91801-5205): This one seems mostly intended for people who are Donald's friends—though the straightforward writing might make him some new friends. In #17 he writes of a recent trip to Washington, family visits and one of President Bush's "Points of Light" initiatives. (S-2t)

☐ODD #3 (Stamps or The Usual from David R. Haugh, 556 N. 3rd, Woodburn, OR 97071): A science-fiction art zine with all the drawings, at least in this issue, by the editor. Haugh here presents an alphabet (you know, "A is for Alphabet", "B is for Boring", and so on) with all of the letters illustrated by little blobby wheeled robots. It's more amusing than that description might indicate. (S-6)

THE OFF HOLLYWOOD REPORT Vol. 5 #3 ($25/yr from Independent Feature Project, 132 W. 21st St., 6th Fl., New York, NY 10011): A magazine for independent professional filmmakers—people who have a budget and actors and camers and all, but less of any than the major motion picture companies. This issue looks at product placement for small movies and European co-production. There is also a guide to the Cannes festival, at which IFP will maintain a presence. (S-36t)

OFFSHORE MEDICAL THERAPIES #7 ($19/yr from PO Box 833, Farmingdale, NY 11737): A magazine that tracks interesting drugs which are not yet available in the USA. For example, this issue leads off with vinpocetine, which apparently helps postpone or prevent senile dementia, but so far is available mainly in Hungary and Japan. They cite references for everything they say and seem solid and serious. (S-8t)

☐OH BABY SHRAPNEL #5 ($1 from PO Box 24953, Sn. C, Vancouver, BC, V5T 4G3, CANADA): A literary tabloid that doesn't take itself *too* seriously, though it features serious work amongst the chuckles. A mix of poetry and short stories, with Mina Shum writing of cheating at a slumber party and Mary Cameron contributing gritty city poetry, to name just two of the folks here. The editor says he loves mail and might well send you a copy just for writing an interesting letter. (T-8t)

☐OIKAZE #25 (¥62 SASE *in Japan* from Bryan Harrell, Futatsubashi #26, 2-24-3 Tomigaya-cho, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 151, JAPAN): I have no idea what a copy shipped to the States will cost you, but this is so charming I had to mention it. It's a newsletter for bicyclists, primarily foreign ones, living in and around Tokyo. Of interest to non-cyclists in this issue is an article on the aftermath of an accident; I had no idea emergency medical services in Japan were so abysmal. (A4-6t)

OLIVERS REVOLVING SURGERY #4 ($5 from Mr. Breakfast, 103 Wheeler, Toronto, ONT, M4L 3V3, CANADA): A zine of art, interviews, and sex. Mr. Breakfast chats with three lesbians with shaved heads, does a story on Russ Meyer, and talks with some unbalanced guy in a bar. Strange pictures and fetishes wander through, and there's a fold-out (completely non-porn) poster as well. A very unpredictable zine. (S-26)

ON GOGOL BOULEVARD #6 ($1 from 151 First Ave. #62, New York, NY 10003): This was actually produced as an insert to the LOVE AND RAGE anarchist paper, and it's been infected by some of the same spirit of Revolution Now! thinking. The basic idea of OGB is to network activists East and West together, and they do manage to produce photos and contact addresses and conference reports. But I think they think too much of the handful of scattered activists they actually represent. It's hopeful that there are activists all over the place, but let's be realistic. (T-8t)

ON THE BLOCK Vol. 2 #2 (SASE (?) from Ananael, PO Box 5233, Ellsworth, ME 04605): A collection of clippings and photos at least vaguely related to issues of pride and homophobia, at least in #2. Seems to have a purpose in mind, but that purpose is not precisely evident. (S-6)

☐ONTHEBUS #5 ($10 from Bombshelter Press, 6421 1/2 Orange St., Los Angeles, CA 90048): A thick perfect-bound literary journal. Though largely poetry, it also contains some short stories, a playlet, color plates and an interview with the elusive Charles Bukowski. Lots of the work here is mildly erotic, with interpersonal relations the odds-on favorite topic. Miriam Sagan and Ivan Arguelles are among the familiar names here. They also feature reviews and translations. Fun to browse through, savoring the pages. (D-234t)

ON THE ISSUES Vol. XV ($9.50/4 issues from PO Box 3000, Denville, NJ 07834): "The Journal of Substance for Progressive Women" gets into many areas of discrimination besides that against women: anti-Semitism, ageism, racism. They profile solutions—as with an innovative program combatting homelessness in Maine—as well as problems. #XV includes discussion of women and minorities in the sciences and an amusing sideline on feminist history at Harvard. (S-36t)

☐OPEN REVOLT #1 ($2 from #108, 225 Wyandotte St. E, Windsor, ONT, N9A 3H5, CANADA): A new "Third Position" journal for Canada. Third Positionists say they're neither left nor right, but their fascination with what they say are ancient runes, their praising of national culture and identity, and their no-nonsense attitudes certainly smack of fascism. "Revolutionary Nationalism" is what they call it, if you want to take a chance on an issue. (S-12)

☐OPEN SORE Spring 1990 ($1 from Route 2 Box 315, Brookline, MO 65619): This comes from an outfit calling itself the First Church of Gamma Rays, which isn't much help in digesting their selection of articles, cartoons, and rants. They pick the greatest nine records of the past hundred years, talk about what a scam a capital gains

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tax cut is, and print a quiz about the ideological mood of the country. Politics and music. (HL-24t)

THE OPTIMISTIC PEZZIMIST #4 ($4 from Mike Robertson, PO Box 606, Dripping Springs, TX 78620): I feel safe in saying that this is the only international publication specifically for the community of Pez dispenser collectors. This issue features more pictures than usual, including such rarities as the Yugoslavian Olympics wolf dispenser. There are also auction results, notes on Pez in the news, and more. (D-32t)

OPTIONS IN LEARNING Summer 1990 ($20/yr from AllPIE, PO Box 59, East Chatham, NY 12060-0059): A newsletter for those who are interested in non-traditional education for their children, from homeschooling to private schools to hybrid methods. They provide a resource listing, referral service, review books and programs, and generally encourage people to find out what's best for their own particular kids. (S-12)

OPTOPHOBIA #1 ($1 & a stamp from Candis Rivers, PO Box 293, Seville, FL 32190): A zine of personal essays and stuff from Candis and her friend Joshua. They talk about straight edge and censorship and life in the sticks and trying to survive in a crazy world. There's a list of the sixteen worst tunes to have stuck in your head (a dangerous thing to read), some comics, and a few reprints. (S-14r)

OREGON PAGAN COUNCIL NETWORK NEWSLETTER Vol. 2 #1 ($1 suggested donation from PO Box 1012, Oregon City, OR 97045): A networking pagan publication which is slowly expanding to include interviews and news as well as ads and contacts. This looks like a useful resource for any pagan in the Pacific Northwest. (S-8t)

THE ORLANDO COLLEGIAN #8-9 ($2 from 2390 S. Orange Blossom Tr., Apopka, FL 32703): An independent college paper with a good range of features. They carry a certain amount of stuff of interest only to their core audience, like the "Campus Watch" crime column and local sports. But their coverage of wider radio issues and politics is very good. Both of these issues contain strong reports on censorship, revolving around 2 Live Crew and nutbar State Attorney John Tanner. (T-12t)

ORLANDO RADIO GAZETTE #1 (35¢ & a stamp from PO Box 547014, Orlando, FL 32854): A new newsletter aimed at folks interested in radio to something approaching the point of fanaticism. The first issue looks at stations in the Orlando market and passes on some news and gossip about potential changes. There are also a handful of messages scooped from FidoNet on radio topics. (S-8)

THE ORWELLIAN TIMES #28 ($1 from PO Box 22431, St. Louis, MO 63126): An occasional collection of essays and rants based in the notion that the government and the banks are out of control. This extends from condemnations of the national debt and the Federal Reserve to hints about a cure for cancer that's been suppressed. A strain of Christian prophecy runs through it as well. (S-10)

OTHERREALMS #27 ($2.85 from Chuq Von Rospach, 35111-F Newark Blvd. #255, Newark, CA 94560): A science fiction zine which is mainly reviews, though these are really just the tip of an overall view of the writing in the field. For example, I much enjoyed Evelyn Leeper's mammoth attempt to provide an overview of the small press SF field in her column this time (based on being an awards judge for Readercon). As always I found a few books in here that I didn't already know about and I'm glad that I did. (S-46t)

□**OUTBURST #1-2** (£5/12 issues from 37 Thorpe St., Birmingham B5 4AU, UK): The successor to **IN THE PINK**, this retains the subtitle of "For Lesbians and Gay Men in the West Midlands". The calendar and contact section remains large, and the news coverage is somewhat expanded. Electoral politics is a big issue in both these editions, as there is apparently some chance of defeating one of the Section 28 MPs. World news, art, and conferences are among the other topics. (A4-10r)

OUT WEST #7 ($2.50 from 10522 Brunswick Rd., Grass Valley, CA 95945): A newspaper for those fond of the West, of good humor, or o the idea that editor Chuck Woodbury can make his living driving a motorhome around and writing about it. Fortunately, the western states provide endless grist for his mill in the form of Logger Burgers, chipmunks, unique people, small towns, tourist attractions and wide open spaces. A very fun, very friendly newspaper. (T-40t)

□**THE OVERLORDS OF RAPAXCIA** (SASE from PO Box 3648, Corpus Christi, TX 78463-3648): It's not actually 100% clear that that's the zine name (or even whether this is a zine) but it's in big letters so what the heck. This is the latest tongue-in-cheek conpiracy/religion to come down the pike. They're not giving out a lot of info yet, but invite an SASE to determine whether you fit in. An outlet for superior mutants. (S-8)

OZONE #11 (Contact Doug Cox, 1503 Coker Ave. #4, Knoxville, TN 37917): A general-interest (though loosely SF-based) apa that still has some spots left for people who want to join in the conversation. One distinctive thing about this apa is the amount of fiction and other creative work (poetry, art) that it contains. This includes action/adventure, SF and fantasy pieces, some rather interesting. (S-72)

PAGAN APA #50 (Contact Rita Prince Winston, 548-3 S. Venice Blvd., Venice, CA 90291-4282): This amateur press association for pagans of all types is still growing and seems friendlier than ever as it reaches the half-century mark. It's not all sweetness and light, since people aren;t afraid to discuss the nasty side of pagan politics, but there is plenty of hopeful stuff as well. Ranges from chitchat to serious proposals for rituals and such. (S-83)

PALLAS SOCIETY NEWS Vol. 5 #1 ($3 from PO Box 18211, Encino, CA 91316): A rather eclectic pagan journal put out by a group of folks who also meet face to face in Southern California. Their interests run wide: herbalism, ritual, ancient pantheons, coming out of the broom closet and reproductive politicking all get their pages in this issue. There's a crisp clean look and most of the articles are short and to the point. (HL-50t)

PAPER RADIO #8/8.1 ($3 from PO Box 85302, Seattle, WA 98145-1302): A collection of short stories, obscure poems, rants and mail art—several good anti-apartheid graphics are included in this issue. The ad for the Macro-Computer is amusing, Willie Smith is confusing, and Margaret Fiske's "The Man Wore Sushi" is an absurd SF story. Christien Gholson has a disturbing dark poem here as well. (S-32t/D-20t)

PARTS V ($12/4 issues from Friday Jones, 451 Moody St. #134, Waltham, MA 02154): This started out as a simple fanzine for the movie *Re-Animator*, but it's broadened to include all sorts of other cult faves. There are SubGenius references, a look at the next film in the series, Stephen King, Wes Craven and lots of other scary folks. The major article in this issue is from someone who likes to hassle fundamentalists, including a long transcript of a radio call-in he did as a Satanist. (S-30t)

THE PEACEMAKER Vol. 43 #2 ($10/12 issues suggested donation from PO Box 627, Garberville, CA 95440): Yes, it is possible to stop contributing to the war machine, and people writing here have done it. The key is to learn to live on a very low income. If you're not into tax avoidance or tax resistance, this is also the place to read about protests from Plowshares actions to Redwood Summer. They also print a list of addresses for incarcerated activists. (T-8t)

PEACEWORK #197-198 ($8/yr from AFSC, 2161 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02140): A fine monthly newsletter of peace and social justice concerns. In addition to dozens of short items, they feature articles from around the world. #197 has Carl Oglesby discussing what revolution might really mean these days, as well as news from Burma and the prospect of nukewaste in your landfill. (S-16t)

PELTEX #8 N (30 fr. from Model-Peltex, 3 rue des Couples, 67000 Strasbourg, FRANCE): This is part of a continuing series of art minis featuring folks from each letter of the alphabet. N is for Nozo and Nice Cutter, both of whom turn in colorful eroticism (reproduced in color), though the one works with computer imagery and the other with carefully sliced mass-market images. (M-20)

PENGUIN DIP #35-36 ($15/10 issues from Stephen H. Dorneman, 94 Eastern Ave. #1, Malden, MA 02148): A combined Diplomacy and science fiction zine. #35 includes a panning of Robert Anton Wilson's latest, lots of reader letters,and of course the game results. Stephen also gives us a look at the post-deficit bust economy, courtesy of living in Massachusetts. (S-16t)

THE PENUMBRA #4 (1 stamp from Porcine Software, PO Box 20625, New York, NY 10009): Well, this is satirical, or else real life is, or else the similar newspaper **THE SHADOW** is, or something. Anyhow, the **PENUMBRA** comes out of the ferment surrounding the Lower East Side of New York, and includes miscellaneous political gossip, chat about the cops and fellow publishers, and examples of surrealism in everyday life. I don't get all of it, but what I do get, I like. (T-12t)

PEPTALK Vol. 7 #2 ($10/4 issues from PEP, PO Box 6306, Captain Cook, HI 96704-6306): A support and networking newsletter for people interested in moving towards a polyfidelitious lifestyle—one centered on a closed group marriage. In this issue there is advice to several people who are interested in such a thing, news of an upcoming conference, and notes on getting started on the path. The folks behind it are also available by phone and mail. (S-10t)

P-FORM #18 ($2 from Randolph Street Gallery, 756 North Milwaukee, Chicago, IL 60622): A critical journal on performance art. This issue, in addition to reviewing a batch of performances, gets heavily into legal issues. It details what you can and cannot do in Chicago in public, prints an exchange of letters between attorneys, and generally explores a very murky area of the law. (S-32t)

THE PIGEON CREEK CLARION #4 (SASE from Don Rodgers, PO Box 1014, Greenville, GA 30222): A single sheet essay, this time on the question of the stereotypical white male bigot. Don seems to be saying this is an overbroad generalization, that minorities have the power in this country, and that all the varieties of human culture should be preserved. (S-1)

□**THE PILLARD DICKLE REPORT** #1-3 ($2 per year [special rate *only* if you mention **FACTSHEET FIVE**; otherwise $8/yr] from Pillard Dickle, PO Box 1077, Newnan, GA 30264): I've said good things about Pillard's calendars and artwork in past issues. Now I'm going to say good things about this strange humorous newsletter, starting with "I like it". Sometimes self-referential, sometimes filled with deliciously non-obvious cartoons, sometimes with a page devoted to a cleverly drawn crossword, this one hops around without getting stale. There;s an interview with PD himself in #2 and news of the new Beatles reunion in #3. (S-4)

□**PIRANHA** Vol. 2 #4 ($10/5 issues from 1140 Queen St. W, Toronto, ONT M6J 1J3, CANADA): A journal of humor with a fairly strong Canadian content—at least that's the easiest explanation for the parts that I don't get. They';re strange people anyhow, devoting the entire back cover to a guide to chewing on your fingernails, printing strange photos of politicians with voice balloons, and poking hearty fun at the "Earning Annex" seminar racket. Lots of short bits, free trade, and French too. (O-12t)

□**PISS ELEGANT** #1 ($1 from PO Box 191781, San Francisco, CA 94119-1781): A new gay poster and writing zine. The first issue contains a couple of high-contrast images plus the start of a diary story filled with sex and drugs. They sent along a few stickers claiming that this is "Not really a 'zine...but an incredible simulation!" but it's good enough for me. Would make a nice wall poster set. (O-4t)

□**PIXEL** May/June 1990 ($42/yr from 56 Herman Court, Watsonville, CA 95076): This isn't really a fanzine but should interest some readers anyhow. "The Magazine of Scientific Visualization" is a slim slick collection of work done in various scientific fields using computer graphics to make results more graspable. There's a molecular animation, for example, which answers important questions about ion channels in cell membranes in this issue. A column discusses the tools used for this sort of thing, while ex-**SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN** editor Dennis Flanagan offers thoughts on words and pictures. (S-44t)

PKDS NEWSLETTER #24 ($6/yr from PO Box 611, Glen Ellen, CA 95442): A continuing selection of news about the works of Philip K. Dick, a brilliant science fiction author who died a few years ago. New works are still being discovered and published (some even turn up here, like the reprinted essay on his story "Beyond Lies the Wub" in this issue). There's a selection of letters from his agent, arguments over the psychological theories in a new Dick biography, and plenty of news about Dick in all sorts of media. If you like his writing, this is essential. (S-20t)

PLAGIARISTIC TENDENCIES #1-4 ($3.75 from Ken Wagner, PO Box 587, Olean, NY 14760): This is a reprint four-in-one edition of the zine that Sara Edwards put out a few years back. It's centered in alternative culture but not necessarily in music. Everything from light porn to notes on sexism in the comics to lyrics from Tonio K to posters for bands. (S-36)

PLAIN BROWN WRAPPER #254 ($1.50 from Jude Grant, PO Box 12421, Columbus, OH 43212): A zine of poetry, essays and visual madness. I really enjoyed the Buggly The Inbred Bear comic in this issue, with guest star Mr. Natural. Sigmund Weiss contributes an odd little story, while Paul Weinman has a poetry insert and some hate mail (to him) to add to the picture. There's also an interview with the band Kibbutz. (S-32)

PODIUM July 1990 (Contact Editor, PO Box 190, Avenel, NJ 07001): This is the largest newsletter I regularly get from behing prison walls. The ADTC is designed as something of a model facility, to provide therapy to inmates convicted of sexual offenses. Unfortunately, it suffers from the same overcrowding and underfunding as most other prisons in the country. Articles cover the law library, recent administrative changes, baseball triva, the Afrikan Organizing Committee, and lots more. Primarily for internal consumption, but a few copies find their way out. (S-64)

POINTS OF LIGHT Vol. III #5-6 (SASE from Temple of Eternal Light, 928 E. Fifth St., New York, NY 11230-2104): A short magickal newsletter, calendar, and catalog. #5 is mostly devoted to a reprinted essay on "The Nature of the Self, Mitochondria, DNA and RNA" which ties those biological images together with Sanskrit and Qabala. The main essay on #6 is on the history and ritual of Litha. (L-2)

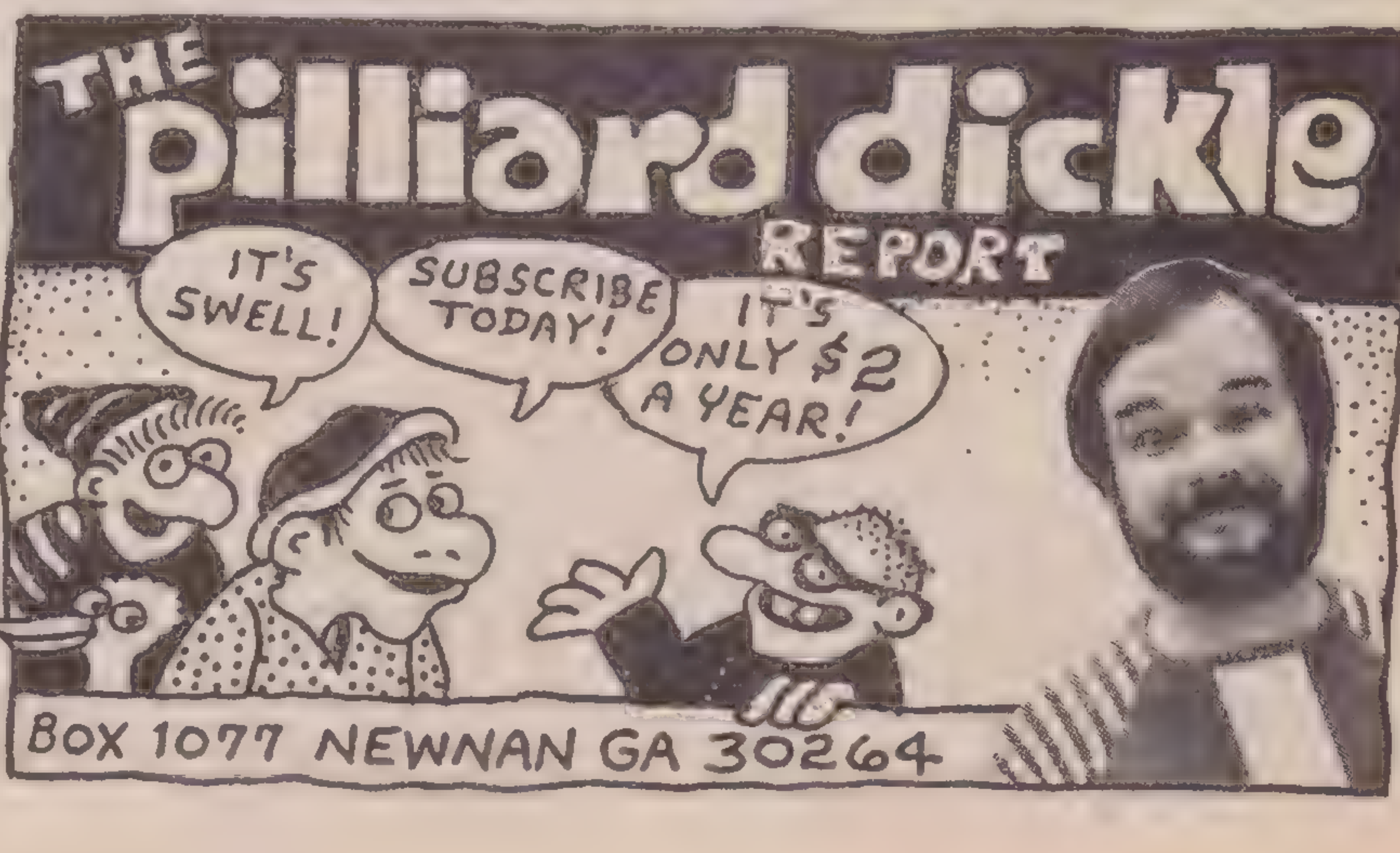
POKER TIPS Vol. VI #3 ($5/yr from International Home & Private Poker Players' Association, Rte. 2 Box 2845, Manistique, MI 49854): A newsletter for poker players with hints on strategy and practice. Membership also includes the **IH3PA NEWSLETTER**, which concentrates on noting who has joined and what events are forthcoming. Also available for $2.50 is the **BASIC RECORD I**, a specialized ledger book for keeping track of your winnings and success rate. (S-2)

□**POLITICAL ECONOMY** #56-57 (SASE (?) from PO Box 9, Forestville, CA 95436): A single-page no-frills zine of political commentary. #56 looks at the scattered pieces of industrial policy in the US and pronounces them wanting, chiefly for being too hard on business. #57 is "Thoughts of a Former Libertarian" and discusses the failings of that party. (S-1)

□**POLITICAL NOTES** #35-49 (Contact Libertarian Alliance, 1 Russell Chambers, The Piazza, Covent Garden, London WC2E 8AA, ENGLAND): Libertarian arguments and views which vary greatly. #35 for example makes the hard-core case that pollution can be solved by extending ownership to include things like whales and rivers. #49, on the other hand, is titled "1381 Revisited: the Tragedy of the Poll Tax", and examines how the government in Britain has screwed up by enacting a regressive tax. From a libertarian group I should have expected somewhat more criticism of the very idea of taxing; I wonder whether this is mainly climbing on to an existing bandwagon? (A4-4t)

POPULARLIFE #2 ($6/4 issues from Mary Arp, 105 Belmont St., Rochester, NY 14620): A collection of mail art and silliness. There's a centerfold of identity-changing glasses to cut out and assemble, a mail art contest, and answers (?) to brainteasers from the first issue. Making toast properly and 1950's art contribute to the ambience here. (D-24r)

POSITIVELY ENTERTAINMENT & DINING Vol. 14 #5-6 ($15/yr from Crooked Arrow Publishing Co., PO Box 16009, Portland, OR 97216): A paper for folks in the Portland area who want to get out of the house. Besides schedules and reviews, they feature bits on local bands of various genres. Blues, open-mike humor and a talent contest all get their space ion #5. (T-16t)



THE POSITIVE TIMES Vol. 1 #1 ($3 from Jerry D. Posner, PO Box 244, West Stockbridge, MA 01266-0244): Formerly **THE POSITIVE TIMES**, this one is still devoted to the power of positive thinking. It draws on the Leary-Lilly-Wilson mode of thinking, and crosses it with some New Ageisms and a MacIntosh-driven typeset-madness layout. Full of ideas on ways to convince yourself that life is good, thereby making it so. (S-16t)

□**POST-AMERIKAN** Vol. 19 #1 ($4/yr from PO Box 3452, Bloomington, IN 61702): An alternative paper for the Bloomington area that maintains some hippie ambience but is still in touch with current issues. Much of this issue is devoted to gay issues and AIDS. There are also pages on feminism, animal rights, and tenant rights. Enough cartoons and humor break it up to keep things fast-moving, and there are plenty of ideas here on what to do when you're done reading. (T-20t)

THE PRAGMATIST Vol. 7 #6 ($10/6 issues from PO Box 392, Forest Grove, PA 18922): A libertarian publication which argues for the free market from utilitarian grounds. This issue, for example, champions the legalization of marijuana, not on the grounds of individual rights, but because of the benefits of hemp as a textile, protein, and biomass fuel. There's also an interesting discussion of sovereign immunity and much more. (S-16t)

THE PRAIRIE RAMBLER #153-154 ($2.34 from PO Box 505, Claremont, CA 91711-0505): A collection of quotes and quips with commentary from editor Jerry B. Some are edifying, some merely amusing, all of interest. From #154: "The more violent the body contact of the sports you watch, the lower your class" (Paul Fussell) and "She had two complexions, A.M. and P.M." (Ring Lardner). (S-8)

PRESENT TIME #80 ($2.50 from 719 Second Ave. N, Seattle, WA 98109): This is the official journal for the international movement of Re-Evaluatin Counseling, a way to help people get rid of junk in their lives and learn to function in a benign universe. It has a slight cultish look to it, seeming to attract True Believers, but founder Harvey Jackins does a good job of avoiding guruhood. This issue contains a multi-page explanation of the origin and evolution of RC, and is a good place to start. (S-120t)

THE PRESIDENT JOURNAL #3 ($3 from General Delivery, Tofield, AB, T0B 4J0, CANADA): A wide-ranging zine of interviews and reviews that covers everything from EC Comics classic SF to an interview with Scott Marshall of Panic Productions. It's scheduled to get more focused in #36, where the mail art coverage will be increased at the expense of other things. Meanwhile, you still get Rodney Leighton's zine reviews, Canadian radio recommendations, poetry and music reviews in this issue. (D-44r)

PRINTER'S INK Vol. 6 #1 (On request from Thomson-Shore, 7300 W. Joy Rd., PO Box 306, Dexter, MI 48130-0305): T-S is in the business of producing short-run books, and this newsletter is for their customers. It does have plenty of useful general information that may help you communicate with your printer as well as specific news about their own facilities. Definitely write for a copy if you're planning a book and then see about a price quote. (S-4t)

PRISONERS LEGAL NEWS Vol. 1 #2-3 (Donation from Paul Wright, Box 5000, HC63, Clallam Bay, WA 98326): This one is put together behind bars by Ed Mead and Paul Wright. While it focuses on conditions and law within the Washington State prison system—one of the worst, at least so far as communication with the outside goes—it is branching out to national and international prison news. Depressing statistic: a 54% rise in number of inmates in a single five-year period. (S-10)

PRISON NEWS SERVICE #24 (Donation from PSC Publishers c/o Bulldozer, PO Box 5052, Stn. A, Toronto, ONT, M5W 1W4, CANADA): It's a bit ironic, but one of the best places to read about the worst part of the US Federal Prison system (USP Marion) is in this Canadian publication. Besides the Marion news, this issue has some fine articles on prison uprisings in Britain and notes from political prisoners around the world. (T-8t)

PROFANE EXISTENCE #4 ($1.50 from PO Box 8722, Minneapolis, MN 55408): A mixed bag of anarchy, music and punk culture. They represent a wide spectrum of opinions and try to deal with ideas fairly, as witnessed by their page on porn and exchange on Palestine in this issue. They review and interview zines, talk to Nuclear Assault, Hellbastard, and others. There's scene reports from places as farflung as Southern California and Poland too. (S-40t)

□**PROGRESSIVE LIBRARIAN** #1 ($5/yr from Elaine Harger c.o Progressive Librarians Guild, Empire State College, School of Labor Studies Library, 330 W. 42nd St., New York, NY 10036): A new forum for socially responsible librarians to discuss major issues of the day. Most of this premiere issue is devoted to the question of the library boycott of South Africa, and whether restricting the flow of information can be a good thing (they say yes). Library services for poor people and the need to change some offensive Library of Congress subject headings are also mentioned here. (D-48t)

THE PROGRESSIVE PRAGMATIST Vol. V #1 ($12/yr from Nicholas J. Nigro, Jr., 3214 Tibbett Ave., Bronx, NY 10463): This political journal has the dubious distinction of being the first one I read to handicap the contenders for the 1992 Presidential race. There's also an article questioning Nixon's new-found acclaim as a political sage, and bits of opinion about everything from Andrew Dice Clay to cigarette advertising. (S-12)

PRO WRESTLING TORCH #70-76 ($5/4 issues from PO Box 201844, Minneapolis, MN 55420): A weekly newsletter of pro wrestling. #72 has an interesting story about another wrestling bulletin's editor setting up someone to be bashed in print by arranging a fake interview. More on this reverberates through following issues, along with video and match reviews and more serious pieces like the Cactus Jack interview in #74. An interesting column in #75 discusses why the electronic media shy away from the sport. (S-6r)

PSYCHIC PATHWAYS Vol. 8 #5 ($15/yr from PO Box 418, Woodmere, NY 11598): This one is mainly advertising, with the editorial content apparently mostly lifted from other sources. Astral projection, crystals, reincarnation and tapes made specifically for infants still in the womb are among the topics here. (S-8)

PSYCHOTRONIC VIDEO #6 ($3 from Michael J. Weldon, 151 First Ave. Dept PV, New York, NY 10003): Weldon is seriously into films that are so bad it's hard to believe they were actually made; this issue even mentions one of my personal obscure favorites, *Alien Contamination*, in an article about Luigi Cozzi's works. There are interviews with Susan Tyrrell and Timothy Carey, record and zine columns, and all the bad film reviews you could ever want. (S-56t)

PULSAR! #16 ($3.50 from Tony Ubelhor, PO Box 886, Evansville, IN 47706-0886): A science fiction zine which is a mix of solid articles and somewhat less solid fiction, with interesting other stuff such as a portfolio of Peggy Ranson art in this issue. I enjoyed the survey of Robert Heinlein's career and the brief talks with Isaac Asimov and the De Camps especially. There's also a great mathematical proof that this mythical being called "the sagan" does not exist. (S-46t)

PWALIVE Vol. 3 #3 ($5 donation from PO Box 10034, Minneapolis, MN 55458-3034): A zine for people with or affected by AIDS that focuses in on empowerment—in addition to listing outside resources, they give advice on becoming your own healer. This issue focuses in on sexuality and intimacy, discussing the range of behavior that is still open to PWAs and some of the pressures they get from others. Very well done. (S-32t)

QUANTUM #37 ($3 from Thrust Publications, 8217 Langport Terr., Gaithersburg, MD 20877): A science fiction zine for people who are at least moderately familiar with the field and still read the stuff—current reviews are an important part of the mix here. #37 also has Poul Anderson ruminating on people he's met in SF, an interview with Michael Coney, and Paul Di Filippo writing about a pair of JG Ballard novels. (S-34t)

THE QUAYLE QUARTERLY Vol. 1 #3 ($3.95 from PO Box 8593, Brewster Sta., Bridgeport, CT 06605): Though still poking much fun at the nation's vice-president, this one seems to be taking a slightly more serious turn lately. This issue has articles on Dan's mideast ideas and his past political history, as well as the usual goofs and gaffes. They examine his schedule, talk to his first steady girlfriend, and even reprint some conservative Quayle support. (S-20t)

QUEER #21-26 (50¢ (?) from 749 Niagara, San Francisco, CA 94112): #21 is a mini with a rather confusing layout and a series of messages and graphics about AIDS. The best of these, to my mind, was "AIDS is spread mostly by blood, semen & ignorance"—a slogan I hadn't seen before. #24 and 25 recount some actions around the recent AIDS conference, first in straight prose and then in cutup form. #26 mutates again into found poetry with a piece of cloth stapled to the cover. (MM-16/L-1)

RADIO FREE THULCANDRA #21 ($3 or The Usual from Marty Helgesen, 11 Lawrence Ave., Malverne, NY 11565): A zine for Christian fandom: folks interested in discussing Christianity and related subjects in the context of science fiction. They're more into exploration than evangelism, though all points of view from relatively hardshell to pagan observer are represented. Thoughtful and fun. (S-52)

RAGING TESTOSTERONE #2 ($1.50 or 5 Jack Chick comics from Dave Matthews, 226 Columbia Dr., Aliquippa, PA 15001): A collage of stuff from all over, this issue focusing in on debates on censorship. They muddle together the Simpsons, the NEA, Don Wildmon's raving, and Tijuana Bibles in one morass of sex and outraged morality. Pretty effective. (S-8)

□**RAINBOW PEACE PROJECTS INTERNATIONAL NEWSLETTER** Winter/Spring 1990 (Donation from PO Box 1932, Walnut, CA 91788): Rainbow Peace Projects is an offshoot of the Rainbow Family, the folks who come together at the annual Rainbow Gatherings. The idea is a series of permanent Rainbow encampments, caravans, fleets and more, spanning the globe for peace. Lots of contact addresses, together with requests for volunteers and funding, make up the bulk of this. (S-16r)

RAISED BY WOLVES #3 ($1 & 25¢ postage from Mr. Ed, PO Box 50454, Austin, TX 78763-0454): This is some of the most powerful and scary writing I've read, from a young man who's been slowly remembering incidents of violent childhood sexual abuse by his father. In a mix of essays, drawings, and poetry, in conjunction with working with his therapist, Ed is getting it all on paper. Enough to shake my faith in the human race, that's for sure, and not for the faint of heart. (D-28t)

LOOK! A HOLE IN REALITY!
WOW... LOOK AT ALL THAT WEIRD STUFF!
FACTSHEET FIVE
©90 Pilliard Dickle

THE RAKE #3 ($2.50 from 202 Cattaine St., Philadelphia, PA 19147): A collection of posters and artworks from the margins. The Art Strike and Cheap Art movements get a fair number of pages here. There are also reprinted political cartoons from days gone by, a collage story from Ahmed Fishmonger, and a variety of things suitable for your local phone pole. Comes in a colorfully-screened bag. (S-64)

RALE #2-3 (50¢ postage from Kevin J. Lintner, 827 N. Queen St., Lancaster, PA 17603-2739): A reviewzine with a little bit of everything, including comics, zines, and music. They print free ads, publish a few snotty poems, and the occasional full page of miscellaneous ranting. Looks promising. #3 adds reviews of music and zines, and reports a fun interchange with the local anti-drug fascists. (D-48)

RAPED ASS #4 (50¢ (?) from Ed Dweebs, PO Box 663, Grafton, CA 95444): This one is on the disgusting side. Ed placed a personal ad claiming to be a dominant woman and here reprints the letters from some of the submissive men who responded. They're into rimming, coprophagy, dog collars, and who knows what else. Pathetic stuff. (S-3)

THE RAVEN #10 ($6.50 from A Distribution, 339 Lafayette St #202, New York, NY 10012): A Distribution are a convenient stateside source for this British anarchist quarterly which bears a strong resemblance to the serious **SOCIAL ANARCHISM**. #10 is a special issue on education, with Colin Ward discussing some of the anarchist roots of progressive education, Michael Smith examining the thoughts of Kropotkin on technical education, and Zeb Korycinska making the case for home schooling. (D-192t)

READ ME Vol. 3 #2 ($5/yr from 1118 Hoyt Ave., Everett, WA 98201): A quality literary tabloid with quite a breadth, from opinion essays (two contenders square off over gay rights in this issue) to cartoon caption contests to plenty of short stories. Maureen Williams writes of ski resorts and learning to live, Laurence DeSaulniers gives us some esoteric literary analyses of three lines in a previous issue, and Murray Bob looks at the best seller mentality. That's just the tip of the package here. (T-24t)

THE REALIST #113 ($23/12 issues from PO Box 1230, Venice, CA 90294): Humor and social commentary—and sometimes it's hard to know where one stops and the other begins. #113 showcases the filming of "Michael and Me" by GM honcho Roger Smith. There's a selection of papers from the popular culture conference, all sorts of rude jokes, and news about nutty things done by our fearless leaders. You gotta laugh, even if some of the ignorance and idiocy here are scary. (S-8t)

REALISTIC LIVING #12 ($4 from PO Box 140826, Dallas, TX 75214)(: A journal of ethics, ecology, religion and living rightly on the earth. The meat of this particular issue is Gene Marshall's extensive commentary on Murray Bookchin's **REMAKING SOCIETY**, endorsing most of Bookchin's views while taking issue with his blanket condemnation of religion. Joyce Marshall reviews recent novels and there are notes on upcoming plans and opportunities to develop these perspectives. (S-16t)

□**REAPER'S HARVEST** #1 ($3 from David Kramer, PO Box 18172, Philadelphia, PA 19116): A new zine of horror fiction, related articles, and reviews of thrash music. "If you feel your work is far too graphic for any other magazine, send it here" is the motto, and the opening "Love Lies Eternal" by the editor certainly fits those requirements. A nasty little zine, and one with quite a bit of potential. #1 also features a Leatherface interview. (S-20t)

□**RECOVERY TODAY** Vol. 1 #4 ($2 from PO Box 754, Goldenrod, FL 32733): A tabloid for people involved in recovering from dependencies, whether through '12-step programs or other organized means. They keep track of local groups and meetings and offer plenty of support, news, and advice. This issue reports on a USDA study of cooking with wine and spirits which showed that most of the alcohol does *not* burn off during cooking, and discusses the aid which recovering people can get from computer BBS systems. (T-20t)

□**REDISCOVERIES NEWSLETTER** #1-5 $4/set from Mark Harris, 3712 N. Sheffield Ave. #303, Chicago, IL 60613): Mark has been inviting friends to suggest books which have been forgotten that ought to be remembered, and he publishes the lists—unedited, photocopied from the originals—here. Thanks to a literate group of friends the zine makes good reading, and the few books I recognize here are ones I approve of. You can get a sample for $1; for the $4 you get the whole project to date, including a form for submitting your own recommendations on. (S-10)

RELIGION WATCH Vol. 5 #8-9 ($17.50/11 issues from PO Box 652, North Bellmore, NY 11710): A monthly look at religious trends around the world, distilled from dozens of other periodicals. #8 opens up with a consideration of small-town American Judaism. Later pieces skip from the Nation of Islam to religion in South Africa and Sweden. #9 leads off with the influence of high-tech brain machines on New Age ideas. (S-8)

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM ALERT Vol. VI #4 ($15/yr from CRF, 515 Wythe St. #201, Alexandria, VA 22314): A newsletter that keeps an eye on church/state relations from the point of view of those worried about religious freedom. This issue tracks the swing of the Supreme Court towards limiting the free exercise of religion, most notably in peyote and Amish buggy cases. They also deal quite a bit with abortion protestors and their rights. (S-16t)

THE RELUCTANT FAMULUS Vol. II #4 ($1.50 or The Usual from Thomas D. Sadler, 422 W. Maple Ave., Adrian, MI 49221): A SF fanzine that is still growing and learning how to appeal to people. The best part about it is Tom's own perfectly open and straightforward essays about fandom and cons and zines; he's developing a worldview and sharing it entertainingly. There's also fan fiction, a robust lettercol, and a stack of reviews. (S-34)

☐**REQUIEM SHARK** #13-15 ($1/3 issues from Simon, PO Box 2126, Knoxville, TN 37901): A very small litmag with a wide variety of contents. #13 is a found poetry issue, with bank clocks, nutritional statements, and more. Best of this triplet was #15, "Reading Jean-Paul", a narrative of trying to read Jean-Paul Sartre in the library amidst members of the public. Very interactive literary criticism. (MM-16t)

RESONANCE #17 ($3.50 from Judy Wall, PO Box 64, Sumterville, FL 33585): This MENSA-affiliated zine is back after a bit of a break. It's for folks interested in bioelectromagnetics—the interactions of electric and magnetic fields with living tissue. Contents range from mainstream (an IEEE report summarizing other research studies) to flaky (stuff on scalar electromagnetics). Largely reader-written and with some pointers to other sources of info. (D-20t)

☐**RESURGENS** #1 ($2.25 from PO Box 725006, Atlanta, GA 30339-9006): A new litmag that's off to an unflashy beginning—one short story, a handful of poems, a review of a novella by Saul Bellows. The works here are not exactly traditional, but they pull back from the wildest experimentation as well; the authors seem to know what they have to say, and say it with craft. Tonja Harrison's "Intimacy" is a very strong offering, a poem from the operating table that gets across the scare of mutilation very clearly. (D-30t)

THE REUNITY #3-4 (75¢ from David Salyers, 14009 Cornuta Ave., Bellflower, CA 90706): The newsletter of The Fellowship of Realist Spiritual Wisdom of the Universal Life Church, a relatively new religious group which draws on many faiths for its tenets. They are in favor of balance and eclecticism, and in these two issues the basic ideas of their practice continue to be laid out. (S-7)

REVIEWS UNLIMITED #2 (50¢ from Boxholder, PO Box 581, Seattle, WA 98111): A handwritten (but extremely neat) journal of small press reviews. It starts off with a longish chunk of comics reviews, then moves into music and finally general zines. A few live show reviews round out the package. There are cover copies of some of the zines reviewed, and they generally stick to things that they like well enough to write good reviews of. (HL-12)

RFD #62 ($4.75 from PO Box 68, Liberty, TN 37095): A reader-written journal for gay men living in the country—or at least wishing they were. They print everything from short fiction to contact letters, health news to a spiritual calendar. In #62 the debate on supporting prisoners continues, and Crazy Owl contributes an offbeat essay on the spiritual side of AIDS—among many, many other contributions of prose, poetry and art. (S-72)

RINGSIDE REFLECTOR Vol. 3 #34 ($2 from Rte. 2 Box 291, Louisville, MS 39339): A wrestling bulletin that has more of a community feeling to it than most; editor J.D. McKay does not dominate the conversation. It's mostly looks at the overall progress of wrestling rather than individual match commentary, with material on the pros, gossip, news of other bulletins, thoughts on which promotions are doing well, and so on. (S-20)

ROLLER SPORTS REPORT

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☐**RITES** Vol. 7 #1 ($20/10 issues from PO Box 645, Stn. F, Toronto, ONT, M4Y 2L4, CANADA): **RITES** seems to be the Canadian equivalent of **GAY COMMUNITY NEWS**, with plenty of information for the gay and lesbian community of Canada. They cover legal and political struggles and community issues, and also review much going on in media from theater to books. #1 includes an interview with Jeanette Winterson and an itneresting analysis of the linkages between class, sex, and identity. (T-20t)

☐**THE ROBOTICS SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP NEWSLETTER** Jan. 88 (2 stamps from Michael Colpitts, 39 E. Warren St., Raynham, MA 02767): This one is sort of old but the editor assures me they're still publishing. It comes from a SIG of the Boston Computer Society, one of the larger collections of computer hobbyists around. The focus is on reporting past meetings and previewing upcoming ones; hence, it is probably most useful for folks in the Boston area. (S-4)

ROLLER SPORTS REPORT #6-7 ($1.75 from Fred Argoff, 1800 Ocean Pkwy. #B-12, Brooklyn, NY 11223): A newsletter for people interested in banked-track roller-skating team sports—of which Roller Derby is only the best known example. There are looks back into the history of the sport as well as the latest news on current promotions such as the World Roller Federation. Also of note are the ads for various memorabilia and videotapes. (D-16)

ROUGH DRAFT #45 ($10/yr from PO Box 6392, San Francisco, CA 94101): The newsletter of the San Francisco Cacophony Society, a group which wallows in strange events. This issue, for example, announces a forthcoming SRL show, a search for a 300-pound python, a burning man for the summer solstice, and more. Definitely things are more exciting there than in this neck of the woods. (L-2t)

RURAL MISSOURI July 1990 ($3.19/yr from 2722 E. McCarty, Jefferson City, MO 65101): Though this one grows out of the rural electric cooperatives of the state, it's actually a good introduction to the people and places of Missouri. They constantly find interesting folks to write about. The July issue has the creator of the original Bigfoot car-crushing truck and a profile of a man who has had the Geneva Bible reprinted. (T-20t)

RURAL NETWORK ADVOCATE #77-78 ($10/yr from 6236 Borden Ave., Boscobel, WI 53805): That's the non-member subscription rate; singles living in the country may join for $30 per year and have the privilege of receiving networking profiles on other members. The newsletter is a place to talk about the joys and hardships of moving back to the land, to reminisce on times gone by, and generally to relax with a congenial group of people. (S-8)

☐**RV** Spring 1990 ($2.50 from PO Box 921, Cambridge, MA 02140): A large-format magazine with a bit of everything and a very arty look: photography, essays, music (Soundgarden in this issue), articles, predictions, and little catchphrases in tiny type at the bottom of the pages. This issue includes a first-person story of teen male prostitution, "Vicestyles of the Rich and Famous", and photography of cool Boston fashion. Would look good on the coffee table, assuming you're upscale enough to own a coffee table. (O-24t)

SACA NEWS Vol. 6 #1 ($7 student or $15 non-student per year from PO Box 15588, Washington, DC 20003-0588): The Student Action Corps for Animals is a networking and support group that aims to help out high school and college students who are being pressured because of their convictions. Their biggest issue is perhaps the right to refuse to participate in dissection labs, but they also get into vegetarianism and other areas. They provide news of struggles, advice to those who need it, and a good selection of resources. (S-16t)

THE SACRED RECORD July 1990 ($1 from Anne L. Zapf, Peyote Way Church of God, Star Rt. #1 Box 7X, Willcox, AZ 85643): This is the newsletter of the Peyote Way Church of God, a group which treats peyote as a serious sacrament. Most of this issue is, as one would expect, devoted to the recent Supreme Court decision allowing the state of Oregon to restrict bona fide religious use of peyote. There are extensive quotes from both sides of the decision, and some notes on what might happen next. Also features excerpts from Andrew Weil's latest book. (S-10t)

SALON #9 ($5 from 305 W. Magnolia #386, Ft. Collins, CO 80521): "A Journal of Aesthetics" with this issue devoted to sex, love and relationships. This includes explicitly sexual comics of various fantastic types, bits of prose from Richard Kostelanetz, essays on prostitution and notes as to erotic writings to be found elsewhere. There are also pieces which have nothing to do with the theme, as with David Ciaffardini's essay on musical alternatives and a couple pages on the Art Strike. (S-84)

SAMHAIN #21 ($4 from 19 Elm Grove Road, Topsham, Exeter, Devon, EX3 0EQ, UK): A very fine looking English magazine of horror films (and related media; they review a few books and records and comics as well). There are plenty of photos and careful attention to page design which sets **SAMHAIN** apart from most other horror zines. This issue has features on the forthcoming *Hardware* as well as *Frankenstein Unbound* and the most recent movies of Robert "Freddy" Englund. (A4-36t)

SANDHILLS LIBERTARIAN GAZETTE July 1990 ($5/yr from Lexington County Libertarian Party, PO Box 2297, West Columbia, SC 29171): This one is of pretty local interest—most of it is devoted to the doings of the Libertarians in "the South Carolina Midlands". This issue reports on their annual convention and makes some nasty remarks about big government. (S-6t)

SAN JUAN HORSESHOE Vol. 14 #4-5 ($12/12 issues from Dr. J. Howard Ducktape, Box 913, Montrose, CO 81402): Weird humor from some mythical land out west. Some of it is local, like the opening of a new plant in town to make Gumbys. Other bits are international, with Gorby giving 900- numbers for people to advise him on the fate of Lithuania. Ace Backwords and Shannon Wheeler have snuck cartoons into #4 as well. #5 explains the way cows work for city slickers and features a 1-square wide crossword for folks in a hurry. (T-20t)

SANS GARDE #2 ($1 from Noah Bunnett, 82 Willow Ave. #46, Toronto, ONT, M4E 3K2, CANADA): A relatively young zine of social consciousness. This issue is largely devoted to environmental issues, Native American issues, and their overlap. There are pleas to stop destroying the lands, notes on the Innu and other current victims of civilization, and so on. Short dystopian fiction, Bikes Not Bombs, and shopping with the environment in mind are also touched on. (S-24t)

SASQUATCH #sample ($1 from the Prime Minister of Livestock and Heavy Machinery, PO Box 126, Milford, ME 04461): A collection of contact addresses, random clippings, and derangement. Much of this issue is taken up by a story apparently written by a rather young child. It makes as much sense as the cover eel. (S-8)

SATORI Vol. 3 #2 ($2 from PO Box 318, Tivoli, NY 12583): A literary magazine which always contains surprises—one this time being an interview with yours truly, if for some reason you haven't heard enough from me by now. There's a nice photo & prose combination from Connie Wallace, some dreadfully experimental text by John Byrom, and a good selection of photos and paintings. Very clean, very open presentation helps the sense of wonder come alive. (S-20t)

✓**SCAREAPHANALIA** #89-90 ($7.50/yr from Michael Gingold, 55 Nordica Dr., Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520): A long-running review of scary movies of various sorts. #89 is pretty much wall-to-wall reviews, with *Tales From The Darkside, Brain Dead* and *Class of 1999* among the offerings. #90 ranges from *Robocop 2* to *Prom Night III*, with sidetrips to such fun fare as *Total Recall* and *Gremlins 2*; sort of a summer viewing issue. (HL-10r)

SCAVENGER'S NEWSLETTER #76-77 ($1.50 from Janet Fox, 519 Ellinwood, Osage City, KS 66523-1329): The essential market guide for the writer or artist interested in getting into the sf, fantasy or horror small press. Janet tracks who's buying and who isn't, lists new anthologies, and provides valuable space for people to spout off on what's good and bad in the small press. If you're serious about getting published, this should definitely help. Also available for $2.50 is the annual **SCAVENGER'S SCRAPBOOK**, an overview of small press markets. (D-32r)

SCIENCE FICTION GUIDE #16 ($1.50 from Charles Platt, 594 Broadway #1208, New York, NY 10012): A fun bunch of articles about modern science fiction and sundry other cultural flotsam. Barry Malzberg as a "Pomo" (=postmodern) writer, the types of editors found in the field, Heinlein and Manson, Bruce Sterling on Panshin's criticism and other goodies are all rolled up in here. Too bad Charles is cycling through a lack of interest in the field and will probably be publishing sporadically for a while. (D-20t)

SCORE SHEET #41-43 ($2/4 issues from 491 Mandana Blvd. #3, Oakland, CA 94610): A collection of broadsides of experimental art and writing issued at irregular intervals. Sometimes the poems here actually make sense, as in "A Minute" by Joseph Jamous in #43. Other blurts, like the piece by Chris Winkler in #42, destruct language completely into a blur of bits of letters. (S-2)

SCRIBBLE UNLIMITED RPESENTS #6 ($1 (?) from 444 Edgewood Pl., Rutherford, NJ 07070): A medley of material, a mix of literary contributions and plugs for a better environment. The longest piece here is a confusing fantasy story with sadistic robots and strange alien names that doesn't hang together real well. Artwork, poetry, and an essay on why the writer left college also drop in. (S-18)

SCROLL OF OPLONTIS Vol. 2 #2 ($3 from PO Box 1036, Beloit, WI 53512-1036): A serious pagan journal which concentrates on the majesty of ancient Greece and Rome. This issue is mostly Roman, and includes a centerspread of photographs of classic statuary. Other features include an article on the Temple of Venus and Rome and some notes on the decline of paganism in the latter says of the City. (S-24)

THE SECOND STONE #11 ($12.60/6 issues from PO Box 8340, New Orleans, LA 70182): An ecumenical Christian newspaper for the Christian community. They present a lot of news in every issue, often on the attitudes of various churches towards gays, but getting to other societal issues as well. For example, this issue has articles on phone sex addiction and gays in the military, as well as the continuing controversy over ordainment of gay men. (T-20t)

S.E.T. FREE Summer 1990 ($1 from PO Box 10491, Oakland, CA 94610): The occasional newsletter of the Society for the Eradication of Television, a group which wants to get folks unhooked from the boob tube. This issue includes a PSA on the subject for your local radio station and tales from a couple of folks who turned down the chance for TV publicity. There's also a medley of quotes and comics on the subject. (L-4)

THE SF CONVENTION REGISTER Summer 1990 ($2.50 from Erwin S. Strauss, PO Box 3343, Fairfax, VA 22038): The most exhaustive listing around of science fiction and related conventions. Strauss lists everything from next week's conventions to bids for Worldcon 2001. Each listing gives contact and price info, dates and location, guests of honor and so on. Extensive indexing makes it easy to find the ones close to you. (S-22r)

□**SFTS NEWS** Vol. 1 #5 ($10/yr from 700 Earl St., San Francisco, CA 94124): The acronym here stands for San Francisco Tesla Society, a new group exploring Tesla Technology. It seems to be a mix of more traditional alternative electricians and New Age folks, with implications being drawn quickly from one field to another. Some of it looks ahead of the evidence to me, but there certainly are a number of people doing research in this field, so who knows? (D-12t)

THE SHADOW #11 ($1 from PO Box 20298, New York, NY 10009): Continuing coverage of the ugly situation on the Lower East Side, where the cops and landlords and other forces of gentrification are trying to push out the hippies and anarchists and squatters and community activists. This issue focuses largely on the May Day riot, provoked when the police decided to shut down a concert and charge the crowd. Courageous activism. (T-20t)

SHADOWPLAY #21-22 ($20/4 issues from Rhea Loader, PO Box 343, Petersham NSW 2049, AUSTRALIA): A lovely little Australian pagan journal which combines forums, fine articles, and a careful artistic layout to good effect. There is discussion in these two issues about the place of gays in the Craft, as well as notes on Norse folklore, reviews of interesting books, a rebuttal to some of Margaret Murray, and much more. Also includes plenty of contact addresses. Done with obvious love and care. (D-60t)

THE SHAMAN PAPERS Vol. 2 #2 ($5 stamps/4 issues from Wade Greyfox, 907 Iroquois Ct., Harrisburg, PA 17109): A small newsletter of shamanism that takes an exploratory rather than a dogmatic stance on things. While there has been some discussion of just who *is* a shaman, Greyfox and his friends prefer to focus on new resources and ideas to help everyone do a better job of coping with the world. (S-6)

SHENANDOAH NEWSLETTER Vol. 17 #3-4 ($10/yr from 736 W. Oklahoma St., Appleton, WI 54914): A chatty Native American publication which pulls together a mix of political and personal news from all over North and (to a lesser extent) Central and South

America. It's a paper of gentle but firm resistance, and remembrance of a cultural heritage. (S-22)

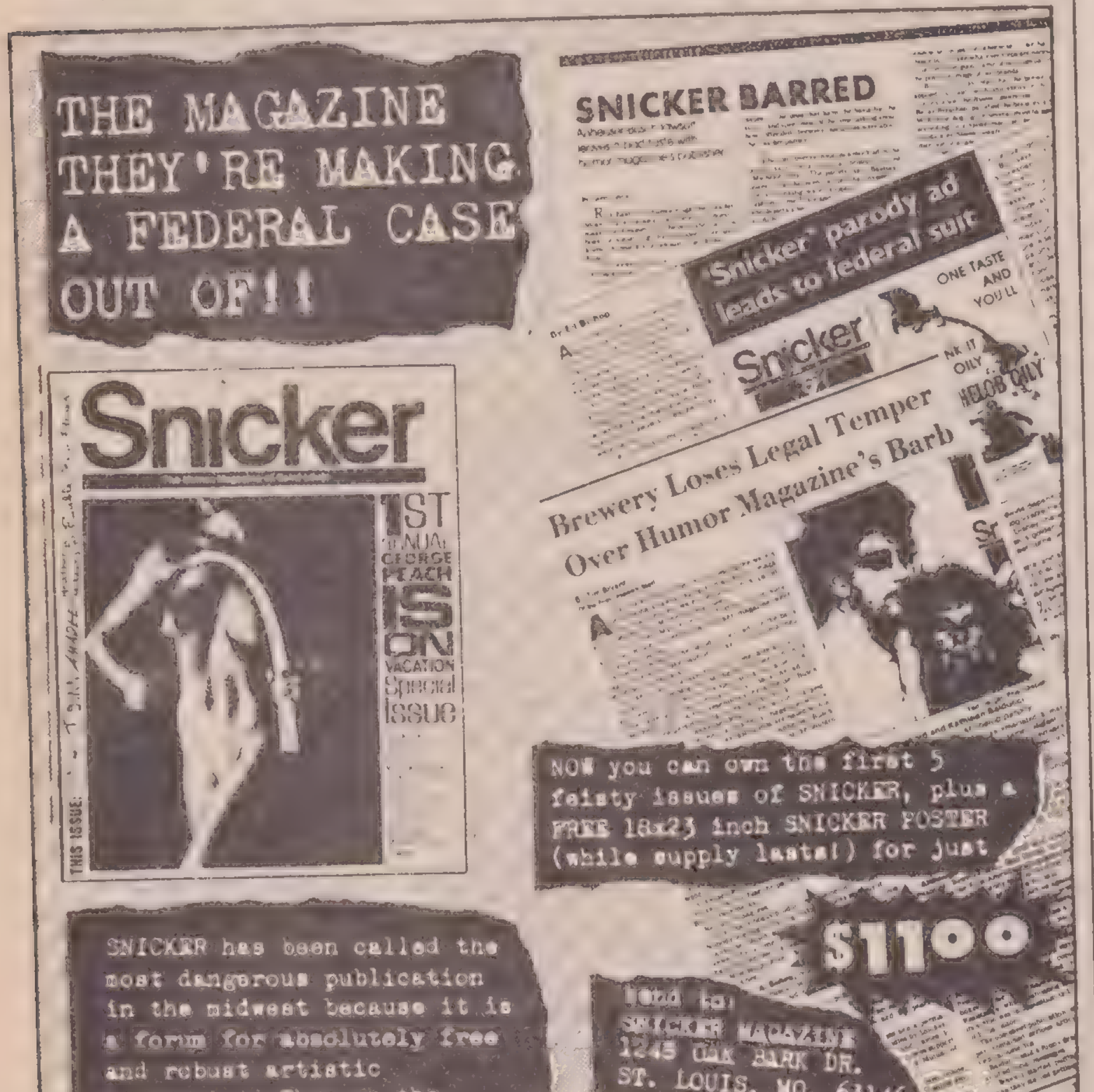
□**SHERLOCKIAN TIDBITS** #12 ($2 from Arnold Korotkin, 12 Glenwood Rd., Upper Montclair, NJ 07043): A newsletter for those who are utterly devoted to Sherlock Holmes. Arnold prowls through the major media, collecting images of the great detective, and reprints them here. This means everything from TV promo to ads for software packages. Apparently this image has thoroughly entered our culture. (S-12)

SHITFEAST #6 ($1 from Asylum Press, GPO Box 5026Y, Melbourne, Vic., 3001, AUSTRALIA): The editors of this rag ask that you not write its name on your envelopes. Inside, there are guides for the urban mutant: which bus lines to spot prepubescent schoolgirls on, where to find particularly bizarre street people. Crazy poetry, a short story, and the Ed Kemper Kama Sutra also appear here. This issue comes with a free sticker. (D-12t)

SHORT FUSE #44 ($1 from Holden, PO Box 90436, Santa Barbara, CA 93190-0436): An open literary forum interested in dreams, psychedelic drawings, poetry and whatever other means of expression spring to hand. John Grey has a wonderful poem on preventing travel in #44, which also features work by Walt Phillips, MW Zimmer, and many others. (S-22)

SHOTS #21 ($15/6 issues from PO Box 109, Joseph, OR 97846): This zine for photographers—including real people—just keeps cooking along. The theme for this issue is "Landscapes", and there are pages of such photography. But there's also a guy getting eaten by a truck, some scary KKK images, neat stories, and pleasant words from editor Dan Price. There isn';t a friendlier publication on the market. (S-56)

SIMPLE COOKING #27 ($16/4 issues from PO Box 58, Castine, ME 04421): A wide-ranging culinary journal that always comes back to robust food rooted in traditions and cultures. This issue is devoted mainly to Louisiana Creole cuisine, from a simple green gumbo to what may be an authentic recipe for Oysters Rockefeller. Along the way there are also cookbook reviews, memories of New Orleans, and a lesson on why anyone would add chicory to coffee. (S-12t)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SIPAPU Vol. 20 #1 ($4 [plus 6.5% in CA] from Noel Peattie, 23311 County Road 88, Winters, CA 95694): This newsletter of reviews and news is directed mainly at socially responsible librarians but can be profitably read by anyone interested in new leads on worthwhile reading. Besides a pile of reviews, there are reports from various library association meetings (which feature more politics than you might expect) and an interview with the editor of **FACTSHEET FIVE** in this issue. I enjoyed it, and marked a few things to send away for myself. (S-16t)

SKULL #2 ($2.50 or The Usual from First SubGenius Apostolic Church, PO Box 8622, Salem, MA 01971): A relatively new SubGenius zine and one which still has a lot of punch. Besides reviewing (or at least plugging) various bits of media madness, they are home to a comfortable array of rants. Read about the Martian Liberation Front, see proof that the aliens are already among us, or just zone out trying to make sense of the writings of Janor Hypercleats. (S-28r)

SLAUGHTER HOUSE #4 (Donation from Dave Simmons Jr., 21370 Pine Ridge Ave., Apple Valley, CA 92307): A somewhat heavy-handed zine of punk Christianity. It's much more directed to evangelism than to music, being a collage of reviews and posters and contacts and responses. (S-12)

SLF #3 ($1 from Resident, 2062 E. 115th St., Cleveland, OH 44106): With this issue the Semiotic Liberation Front takes their message international in a mass of translations and cross-cultural attack. The majority of the issue is devoted to a detourned comic which is now about handing out zines and Art Strike information east of the Iron Curtain, though I suspect it was originally religious in nature. (D-24)

SLIME #1-4 (SASE from David Ross, 1341 Williamson St., Madison, WI 53703): A radically deconstructed and rearranged version of the Neoist magazine **SMILE**. This one features (in #1), such memorable phrases as "fear wall of flush" and "KUlineNTvisual". Very offbeat. The mix gets even muddier in the succeeding issues, as even the name mutates to **EMILS** and **LIMES**. **MILES** continued the progression. Also available is an untitled text by Lang Thompson, which anyone is free to "correct", together with the corrected version. (S-2)

SMALL PRESS REVIEW April-May 1990 ($18/yr from Dustbooks, PO Box 100, Paradise, CA 95967): A combination of market news and reviews for the various literary and related small presses around the country. The May issue features an extra dose of Laurel Speer, who has been buried under good material since starting a regular column here. (S-16t)

SNICKER #5 1/2 ($2 from Balducci Publications, 1248 Oak Bark Dr., St. Louis, MO 63146): This humor tabloid has managed to get in trouble already, being sued by Anheuser-Busch for their "Michelob Oily" parody ad on the back of this issue (referring to a messy spill in the local river). Lots of funny cartoons, Siskel and Ebert review the Zapruder Film in a stunning display of bad taste, and there's an interview with artist Michael Lynch who did the "community standards" version of their last nude cover for the front of #5 1/2. Thumbs up. (T-24t)

SNOW COUNTRY June/July-August 1990 ($10/yr from PO Box 2071, Harlan, IA 51593): A magazine for people who like ski resorts and the neighboring areas, though the focus is far from being solely on winter sports. The summer double issue, for example, examines some of the hot real estate markets, has bits on mountain biking, canoeing and sailboarding. They keep track of festivals and other events as well. The August issue rates the best skis and boots of the new season. (S-96t)

SOCIAL ANARCHISM #15 ($3 from 2743 Maryland Ave., Baltimore, MD 21218): A somewhat stolid and academic journal and review of anarchist thought. Indeed, some pieces (John Moore's "Toward a Cultural Ecology of Anarchy" stands out) read almost as parodies of academic writing. Fortunately there are also solid essays here, such as David Bouchier's investigation of the tough questions for anarchist and the various book reviews (John Moore's pedantic reading of **ANARCHY COMICS** excepted again). They don't speak to the current youthful wing of the movement, and don't really try to, but there are interesting bits of theory here. (D-94t)

THE SOCIALIST June 1990 ($5/yr from 15502 W. Adams Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90016): The newsletter of the Socialist Party USA, this tends to contain a mix of outreach, humor, and movement articles. In June they wax horrified over the shape of a privatized postal service, conduct further debate on the place of cooperative businesses under socialism, and look at The Other Economic Summit. Probably as mainstream as socialism gets these days in the USA. (S-12t)

☐**SOCIOLOGICAL NOTES** #7-8 (Contact Libertarian Alliance, 1 Russell Chambers, The Piazza, Covent Garden, London, WC2E 8AA, UK): A Libertarian broadside written by Tim Evans, a doctoral candidate in sociology at the respected London School of Economics. In #7 he derides the current trend towards grand holistic theories and fascination with the concepts of crisis and contradiction. #8 looks into the Parliamentary system and whether it is possible to bring about change through it. (A4-4t)

SOCIÉTÉ Vol. 3 #1 ($$6 from Technicians of the Sacred. 1317 N. San Fernando Blvd. #310, Burbank, CA 91504): A journal of African and neo-African religions, of which Voudoun is only the best-known example. They publish a variety of articles, some historical, some explaining practices, and some giving reports on students' own experiences. The texts here are to be found nowhere else, and some of the gnostic essays are quite sophisticated. (S-86)

☐**SOLAR BOX COOKING** Mar./Apr. 1990 ($20/yr from Solar Box Cookers Northwest, 7036 18th Ave., Seattle, WA 98115): Here's a new single-interest publication with a good idea. They're spreading plans and ideas for solar box cookers—basically an insulated box, black inside, with glass and a reflector over the top (better plans than my description are on the back cover here). There are a batch of people getting the word out to underdeveloped countries as well as in the US. Friendly and contagiously energetic. (S-12t)

SOMA Frugivorous Apes Issue ($2 from Thomas Peake, GA Tech Box 35526, Atlanta, GA 30332): A mix of classy art, wide-open layouts, literature and music. Thomas reviews a few noisy things and a batch of fanzines, prints a chat with Transvalue, and snarks back at snarky letters. Real nice screened cover too. This is also the final issue, but copies are still available. (S-30t)

SOMEPLACE LIKE EARTH #8 (50¢ from Chris Caggiano, 1737 Grove St., Ridgewood, NY 11385): A collection of political rants, generally from the opposition side of the spectrum. This issue features Bob Z writing about the war on drugs and Jouett Arney discussing corruption in the Kansas prisons. Also includes an extensive catalog of pirated tapes available from the editor. (D-24r)

SOMETHING SHORT #4-5 (SASE from Daniel Ust, 321 Maple St. #49, Perth Amboy, NJ 08861): A collection of short stories, at least for incarnation #4, although Dan is open to publishing most anything. His own "Yet Another Boring Story" is a weird horror fantasy thing, while Kim Carsons does well with "An Act In Self-Destruction", immersed in the performance art mania. #5 has a short rant/collage on the back cover. (S-10)

☐**SONIC BOOM** #2 (50¢ from 6415 W. "R" Ave., Schoolcraft, MI 49087): A confusing medley of rearranged newspaper clippings, horoscopes, and band schedules. The inside covers open up into a two-month calendar of celebrity birthdays. Who knows what's going on here. (S-6)

THE SORCERER'S SCROLLS #35-36 ($2.50 from Tori Bergquist, Cliff Hanger Games, PO Box 117, San Simon, AZ 85632): Tori took a long break, but he's back and this role-playing fanzine is better than ever. They cover everything from Tunnels * Trolls to GURPS, with scenario ideas, advice on role-playing, new campaign ideas and more. There are also reviews of books, movies and comics that are of interest to gamers, along with reviews of the games themselves. A fanzine that has continued to evolve and improve over the years. (S-32t)

SOURCES #17 ($10/yr from PO Box 1076-SUB, Columbia, MD 21044): A New Age magazine which serves as both a resource guide for the Maryland, DC, Virginia and Pennsylvania, and as a place to read interesting articles. Most of #17 seems to be devoted to relationships on one level or another. There are also bits of channeling, a calendar, notes on New Age practitioners, and lots of other goodies. (S-56t)

☐**THE SOUTH COAST OMELETTE** #1 ($1 (?) from PO Box 1432, Bloomington, IN 47402): A collection of essays guaranteed to provoke some loud arguments. There's an exploration of the second amendment pointing out that it was the need to shoot cops and soldiers that provoked it in the first place, a consideration of swimsuit magazines as the newest porn substitute, and a guide to over the counter drug highs. Real strong on civil liberties and middling outrageous in spots. (D-16)

SOUTHERN LIBERTARIAN MESSENGER Vol. XVIII #12-Vol. XIX #1 ($6/yr from Rt. 10 Box 52-A, Florence, SC 29501): Libertarian editorial opinions sprinkled between liberal amounts of reprints from other media sources. They worry about the evil of government while simultaneously portraying its humorous side. Good bathroom reading. (S-10r)

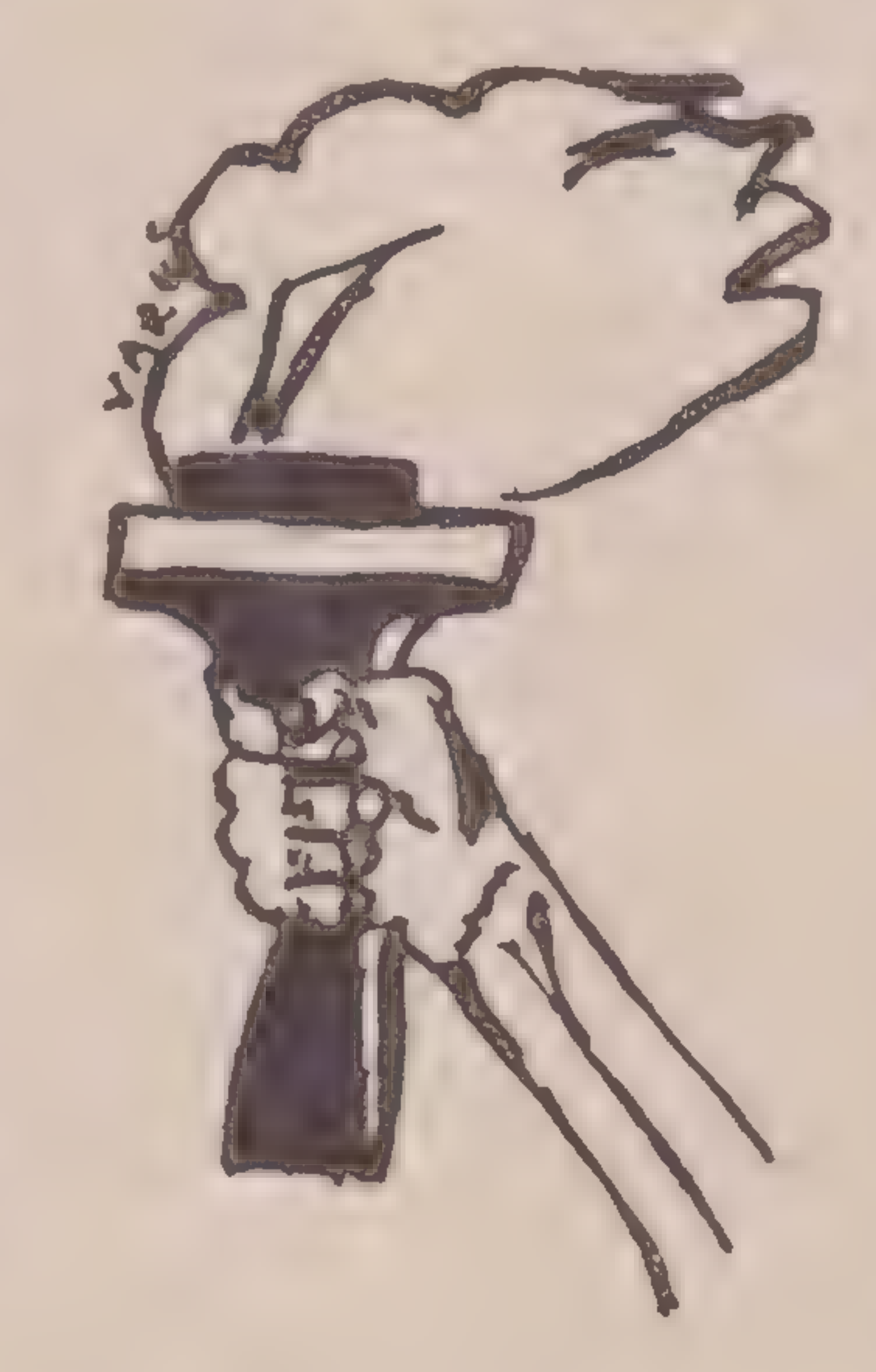
SPACE & TIME #78 ($5 from G. Linzner, 130 W. 78th St. #4B, New York, NY 10023-4432): One of the better non-pro publications of fantastic fiction around; like many others, it's running on a shoestring, but deserves to survive. Gabriel Silva de Anda's "Greatly Exaggerated" in this issue is as good a story as anything I've ever seen in the prozines, a reasonable extrapolation of the law into a complex future that lacks some of the glitz of the cyberpunk vision. Chris Harold Stevenson's "Temperamental Circuits" is cute too. (D-118t)

☐**SPANISH ARMADILLO** #2 (The Usual from Geogre Bondar, 33 Ragstone Road, Slough, SL1 2PP, UK and/or Chuck Connor, Sildan Hse, Chediston Rd., Wissett, Nr Halesworth, Suffolk, IP19 0NF, UK): Perhaps the main feature in this SF zine is Geogre's report of a trip which included an Expo, scuba diving, and lots of losing one's lunch at sea, the latter described in more loving detail than I might have liked. A couple of zine reviewers are turned loose on the same stack of zines, resulting in a mix of opinions about their worth. There's also a nice essay from Martyn Taylor on growing old.(A4-52)

SPECTRUM #13 ($15/6 issues from 61 Dutile Rd., Laconia, NH 03246): A news digest of alternative health and lifestyle information. A few of the areas of concern in this issue: organic foods, the health benefits of olive oil, electromagnetic healing, homeopathic AIDS treatment (some people have criticized their past AIDS coverage, though) and scientists against animal rights. They cite sources for everything, and generally don't go off the deep end. (S-36t)

THE SPIRITUAL REVOLUTIONARY #11 ($3from S/R Press, PO Box 60327, Palo Alto, CA 94306-0327): A zine primarily meant for people who have read Kyle Griffith's book **WAR IN HEAVEN** and find it worth pursuing further. There is much New Age jargon here, as Kyle responds to letters from readers, but it's tempered with a sort of spiritual pragmatism. The ideas are new, but you're not asked to take them on faith, only to try them out as a working hypothesis—and watch out for that blinding white light after death. (S-20)

SPRAK #2 (IRCs from Kami, PO Box 399, Kingswood SA 5062, AUSTRALIA): A sloppy little zine of movies and the occasional bit of indie music. There are reviews of a batch of movies from pornos to cannibal flocks to *Nightbreed*. Also features fanzine and record reviews, and cartoons with somewhat crude jokes. Closes with a Scientology hiring form for some reason.(A4-14r)



☐**SQUARE PEG** #23-27 (£14.50/yr with air postage from BM Square Peg, London WC1N 3XX, ENGLAND): A classy artistic gay and lesbian magazine that gets into some pretty outrageous stuff: peep shows, coming out stories, fairly explicit photography, outrageous fashion. They cover all sorts of gay culture, the latest arguments and politics, poke a little fun at other pubs, do lots of reviews. Indescribaly packed. (S-48t)

THE STAMP ACT Spring 1990 ($2 from Steven Bryan Bieler, 7307 6th Ave. NW, Seattle, WA 98117): A magazine for the collection and appreciation of rubber stamp art. Folks combine little images in big unexpected ways here, add perhaps a few words or a little sketching, and generally strike a funny chord. Lots of spiders in the spring issue for some reason, along with other bugs, frogs, cats and assorted strange people. (S-22)

STAR ROUTE JOURNAL Vol. 8 #3-4 ($10/12 issues from PO Box 1451, Redway, CA 95560-1451): A community paper for alternate folks in the region known as the Mateel. These issues have the best coverage of Redwood Summer from the point of view of area residents that I've seen yet. It explores the dimensions of violence, and seeks positive ways to continue after the bombing of Judi and Darryl. There are also letters, short stories, and other fun things here to balance out the seriousness. A very hip paper. (T-20t)

STICKY CARPET DIGEST #5 ($5/4 issues from Tom Deja, 86 Willow St., Floral Gables, NY 11001): B-film coverage that goes off in some unique directions. In this issue Anni Ackner discusses horror movies and what we can learn from them, while Tom Deja and Dorian Tenore-Bartilucci debate the merits of *Earth Girls Are Easy*. There are also vampire and other movie reviews, and a look at David Bowie's current tour. (S-18)

STORM WARNING #15 ($1 from Vietnam Veterans Against the War Anti-Imperialist, 4710 University Way NE #1612, Seattle, WA 98105): A zine of revolutionary opposition to the current political system, spearheaded by Vietnam vets who came to see that the other side was right in that war. They are heavily into flag-burning and other forms of disrespect, analyses of dehumanization by the military, and building political consciousness. Good stuff on Central America in this issue. (D-24t)

STORYZINE #4 (75¢ from Ken Wagner, PO Box 587, Olean, NY 14760): A single-author collection of short fiction. This time around it's a pair of stories from Robert Howington, the editor of **EXPERIMENT IN WORDS**. Both feature a bit of off-stage sex, leading to strange epiphanies of death. (D-16r)

SUBHUMAN #16 ($5/5 issues from Cecil Doyle, PO Box 53735, Lafayette, LA 70505): A movie zine that focuses on some of the sleazier parts of the field (and of other fields—there's a review of the notorious **PURE** magazine in this issue). *Death Scenes*, a long talk with one of Herschel Gordon Lewis's cinematographers and a look at "Hateville USA" are among the features in this issue. (D-16t)

SUBJECT TO CHANGE #12 ($12.50/yr from Alliance for Non-Violent Action, 37 Pearson Ave., Toronto, ONT, M6R 1G3, CANADA): A magazine of non-violent resistance that cuts through a wide swath of issues. The major theme of this issue is fighting apartheid, from trying to shut down the South African embassy to a corporate profile of Shell Oil. Other topics include overflights of native lands, the Earth Day Wall Street action, and a roundup of civil disobedience briefs from all over. (S-44t)

☐**SUBTERRANEA** #5 ($3 from Jason Gray, 47 Thorncliffe Park Dr. #609, Toronto, ONT, M4H 1J5, CANADA): An underground and horror video journal concentrating on films available in Canada. They even go one step further than most and give hints on where to find these videos, especially ones that aren't legally supposed to be in town. There's also an interview with Ron Oliver, a Jess Franco update, and a look at the classic *Sorcerer*, as well as plenty of reviews. (S-34)

THE SUBTLE JOURNAL OF RAW COINAGE #33-34 (Respectively 75¢ and 25¢ plus 25¢ postage each from Geof Huth, 225 State St. #451, Schenectady, NY 12305): Two more collections of unusual and unlikely words by that indefatigable collector of language Geof Huth. #33 is subtitled "Extrasuperhippopotomomonstrosesquipedalanianisms" and consists solely of ridiculously long words; one takes up the entire centerfols. The other issue, "Anglovenezolismos", treats mutations of American slang found in Venezuela (M-8t/MM-8t)

SUGAO #3 ($2 from PLP, PO Box 702, Redmond, OR 97756): This issue was printed in Japan but Max should be back in the States by the time you read about it. It's a zine of reviews, of music, zines, and what-not, plus articles on things from Libertarian microfiche to the scene around the world to rainforest destruction. Bits and pieces are printed in perhaps half a dozen languages, giving it a very international feel. (D-78)

THE SURVIVOR Summer 1990 ($20/4 issues from P.L.E.A., 356 W. Zia Rd., Santa Fe, NM 87505): This is a newsletter (perhaps the only one in existence) specifically for male survivors of child abuse and incest. Their strong suit is the extensive referral column, with notes on groups and therapists all over the country. There's also a calendar of events and some writing from men trying to come to grips with their past. (S-8t)

THE SWEET RIDE #14 (50¢ from Randy Russell, 5414 Columbus Ave., Sandusky, OH 44870): A zine of essays and stuff. There's a rant about getting bad food in a diner, a report on one of those horrendous indoor truck events that always get blitzed on the local rock station, and some notes on the movie *Walkabout*. Music and the Catholic church, ice-fishing, who knows what will turn up next. (D-16)

☐**THE SWIMMING HOLE** #1 ($1 from Carrie Jo, 65 Upland St., Worcester, MA 01607): A zine of short essays, rants, diary bits, with marginal humor and an ad for free kittens. People here talk about the music scene or swimming or emotional experiences. All handwritten and personal. (D-16)

SWORD OF SHAHRAZAD #12 ($3 from Amazon Publications, PO Box 152844, Arlington, TX 76015-2844): The twist to this litzine is that it's run as a "Fiction Writers Workdhop-in-a-Magazine"; readers are encouraged to send critiques as letters which are published in the following issue. Of the stories this time around, Ruth Brem's "Hellbent Housewife" was well-done if a bit rpedictable, while Peter Jaehrling's "limbo" takes a rather different approach to fantasy. They print poetry and reviews as well. (D-48t)

☐**TACTICAL NOTES** #7-8 (Contact Libertarian Alliance, 1 Russell Chambers, The Piazza, Covent Garden, London WC2E 8AA, UK): A pair of essays by Brian Micklethwait on arguing for Libertarianism and the conditions which make people eventually accept the arguments. There's one utterly delicious truth in #7: "Most people need no Facts in order to start cranking out immediate verdicts." How true. (A4-4t)

☐**TALES OF THE UNANTICIPATED** #7 ($4 from Minnesota Science Fiction Society, PO Box 8036, Lake St. Sta., Minneapolis, MN 55408): A well-done magazine of speculative fiction, most around the SF arena somewhere. Bruce Bethke's "Expendables" stands out here, though the SF connection is pretty well unessential to the story. Martha Hood's "Inside a Bear" is also weird and wonderful. (S-56t)

TALKING LEAVES #14-15 ($15/yr from 1430 Willamette St. #367, Eugene, OR 97401): "A monthly journal dedicated tot he spiritual dimensions of Deep Ecology". Most of #14 is dedicated to the fight to save at least enough old growth forest to make a viable ecosystem, from Christopher Manes on the demise of civilization to reporting on a recent protest action. After the heavy stuff Swami Beyondananda's column at the end comes as a welcome relief. Also a good source for local events and contacts. (T-20t)

TAP #99 (1 stamp from PO Box 20264, Louisville, KY 40250-0264): A small zine for hackers and phone phreaks. They talk about ringback numbers, future plans, and BBS programs in this issue, though nothing is at great length. There's also a review of **IRON FEATHER'S JOURNAL**. (D-8r)

TAPE UPDATE #19-20 (50¢ from 1806 Self Cir. #8, Jonesboro, AR 72401): A wrestling zine which revolves around Brian Tramel's extensive collection of wrestling videotapes, which he catalogs and offers for sale. There are also bizarre bits of inside humor, letters from other wrestling folks, and the occasional sarcastic wrestling t-shirt to cope with. Not for the newcomer to the field. #20 is a double issue costing $1, which announces plans to continue evolving towards a full-fledged wrestling bulletin.(M-20r)

☐**TASTY TREATZ** (50¢ from PO Box 1905, Boulder, CO 80306-1905): A collection of bizarre and distressing newspaper clippings. They range from a sex criminal who worked for IBM to the Disney anti-moustache policy to the doings of the local university police. There are drugs and taxes, toad lickers and police shootings, and in general the wackier side of the spectrum of human behavior. (D-16t) **T.B.O.S.** Vol. 2 #3 (50¢ (?) from Ananael, PO Box 5233, Ellsworth, ME 04605): A collage of homosexual porn, together with a few other drawings and photos and some ecstatic writing. It neither explains what the title stands for nor more of anything else. (S-6)

THE TEST BANNER Vol. 3 #1 ($10/yr from American Peace Test, PO Box 26725, Las Vegas, NV 89126) A tabloid paper from a group that is working for a comprehensive nuclear test ban. Much of it is of course devoted to actions at the Nevada Test Site and elsewhere, with advice for those who want to get involved. There is also a phone blockade if you can't make it out there, news of triels, and editorial cartoons to keep the tone a bit lighter. (T-16t)

THE TEXAS SF INQUIRER #33 ($1.50 from FACT, PO Box 9612, Austin, TX 78766): A science fiction fanzine put out by folks from the Fandom Association of Central Texas. It's a bit sketchy these days, but it might get back on its feet soon. Convention reports, book reviews, and notes on the fanzine Hugo competition for this year are the bulk of the contents. (S-16t)

T.F.Y.S. Vol. VIII ($2 *CASH/stamps* donation from PO Box 22551, Memphis, TN 38122-0551): A selection of reprints from all over, Mark Twain to Bob Black, Camden Benares to some deranged anarcho-revolutionary crackpot. Topics include licking toads, Zen, Holocaust revisionism, Vietname, media imagery, stamping out racism, and much more. An open forum for opinion and debate that's sure to make you think at least a few times. (D-88r)

THEY WON'T STAY DEAD #11 ($1 from Brian Johnson, 11 Werner Rd., Grenville, PA 16125): A zine of sleazy movies and other bits of trash culture—this issue has a page on some performance artists from beyond the edge, including one who died amputating his own penis for the sake of art. Movie-wise, try *House of Wax* and *Henry: Portrait of a Serial Killer* for reference points. (D-16r)

THE THIRD WAVE Vol. 1 #1 ($5/yr from Feminist Resources Unlimited, 264 Doyle Ave., Providence, RI 02906): A new feminist newspaper that intends to document the state of the movement today, as it matures and continues to fight for women's rights. They talk about current legislative efforts, preserving and unearthing women's history, and sexism in the Catholic church, among other topics. (T-8t)

THIRD WAY Vol. 2 #3-4 ($4 from PO Box 10203, Arlington, VA 22210): "The Biggest Third Position Journal on Earth": "third way" means not capitalist, not communist. What they are is racist and nationalist, though they're in the new breed of sophisticated racists who say "me first" rather than "others last". They have some interesting criticisms of more conservative and traditional racist movements as well as of the mainstream. (S-36)

THE THISTLE Vol. 4 #7 ($1 (?) from MIT W20-450, 77 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02139): An alternative news journal from and for MIT students. They hit on most of the social activist issues of the day, with divestment still being the biggie in #7, which also has stories on the situations in Palestine and Columbia. (T-8t)

□**THOROUGHBRED SPECULATOR** #2 ($49.95/yr from Bill Olmsted, 309 Beverly Pl., Edgewater, MD 21037): This newsletter is directed at those seriously interested in playing the horses for a living. Rather than offer a list of specific recommendations, Bill provides an overview of the field, looking at particular new ideas and commenting on the various systems and how to profit from them. Much of this issue is devoted to reporting on the 3rd National Conference on Thoroughbred Handicapping, which attracted most everyone in the field. (S-8t)

THE THOUGHT Vol. 10 #4-5 ($1 from The Philosophers Guild, PO Box 3092, Orange, CA 92665): A publication of politics and essays, with a strong libertarian-to-anarchist flavor. In #5, Ben Price dissects the War on Drugs, various folks argue esoterica about Objectivism or the Art Strike, and editor Ron Tobin continues his mildly salacious vampire fiction. (S-22)

THUNDERBOW II #10-11 ($15/12 issues from PO Box 185, Wheatridge, CO 80034-0185): A pagan newsletter which tries to link practice up with the rest of the world. They carry forecasts for the coming months based on astrology and the I Ching, and look at news stories of interest in brief form. There's a letter in #10 this issue about the practice of instant shamanism, and more news on what the Church of Seven Arrows is up to. (S-6t)

TINA "Fuck Anti-Tinites" issue ($2 *Cash/stamps* from PO Box 1914, Bellingham, WA 98227-1914): The Church of Tina Chopp is a strange religion, that believe in worshipping drugs (a herbal joint comes with this issue) and sending letter bombs to their enemies, or at least so it says here. Obscure theology mixes with humor and ridicule of more mainstream evangelists. Snakes and killer dogs get into the act too. (D-32t)

TINSEL IGUANA #2 ($1 from Pox, 601 S. 6th Ave., St. Charles, IL 60174): A haphazard assemblage of creative work. It includes a short story by Gregory Nyman, some impenetrable dark comics, and a few inserts. There's a pamphlet of White Boy poems and a minicomic dramatizing a woman saved from falling to her death by tangling in a clothesline. (S-16)

□**TODAY'S VIEWS** #1 (SASE from Todd Schulte, 4439 154th St., Lawndale, CA 90260): A collection of major media news stories and opinion items that happened to interest Todd. Topics include Pat Robertson's current political activism, a controversial animal-rights TV commercial, and the current discontent among youth. (S-8t)

TOILET SUCK ($1 (?) from Peter Warner, PO Box 2581, Times Sq. Sta., New York, NY 10108): A collection of bizarre and disturbing fiction. At least I hope it's fiction. Strange sex, ventriloquist dummies, and an overwhelming amount of apparent hate for human relationships are the key ingredients here. Nasty stuff. (HL-16t)

THE TORCH Summer 1990 (Donation from YPSL, 516 W. 25 St., New York, NY 10001): The newsletter of the Young Peoples Socialist League, a group which tries to link youth into the socialist tradition. Most of this issue is inreach rather than outreach, revolving around a convention to pass a Constitution for the group. (HL-16)

TORN SCROTUM #3 ($2.50 *CASH* from PO Box 293, Welland, ONT, L3B 5P4, CANADA): A collection of "Propaganda for Cultural Terrorism" with pages devised to excite and disgust. Anti-racism, cannibalism, anarchy, the uselessness of police, and legal highs are all in this issue. There's White Boy poetry and punk graphics as well. Zines from the edge. (S-24)

TOUCHPOINT Vol. 3 #3 ($4 from 27 Music Square East #169FG, Nashville, TN 37203): A place for personals ads between folks who are interested in exploring non-monogamous relationships. They're aimed more at those seeking long-term development rather than swingers interested in a quick roll in the hay. Members range across the States, though there aren't really any major concentrations. (S-8r)

TOURIST TRAP #9 ($1 from PO Box 1033, Newport, RI 02840): A mix of literary material, socially conscious pieces, and culture. This issue touches on censorship and conservation. There's a story about being harassed by fanatics in an airport and some poetry from Sigmund Weiss, Larry Oberc, and others. In the back some zine and music reviews are tucked away. Takes a very strong free speech position, which of course I approve of. (S-28)

TRADITIONS SOUTHWEST #2 ($12/4 issues from PO Box 7725, Albuquerque, NM 87194): A large-format magazine for adobe architecture and other folk arts, including handmade furniture and the religious furnishings one often associates with adobe in the Southwest. #2 has several articles on earthquake resistance, as well as notes on builders and their works. "The Harmony of Tradition" is an essay that does a nice job of putting it all in perspective. (O-48t)

□**TRAJECTORIES** #6-7 ($6 from The Permanent Press, PO Box 700305, San Jose, CA 95170): A journal of optimistic futurism inspired by the wit and wisdom of Robert Anton Wilson, who also writes major chunks of it. Global energy grids, space travel, nanotechnology, virtual reality, life extension—these are the stuff of Wilson's worldview these days. He reviews cutting-edge books and periodicals, pokes fun at the War On Drugs and other bureaucratic insanity, and looks at Damned Things of all sorts. Very fun reading, and if it doesn't set off your bs detector at least once, you're not thinking hard enough. (S-20t)

TRASH BARREL June 1990 (The Usual from Donald Franson, 6543 Babcock Ave., North Hollywood, CA 91606): A review of fanzines which concentrates nearly exclusively on the SF world, though some marginal items (like **FACTSHEET FIVE**) sneak in. **TRASH BARREL** is growing steadily; there's almost 40 reviews in the current issue. (S-4)

□**TRILOGY** Vol. 2 #1 ($6.95/2 issues from 3 S. Sixth St., New Bedford, MA 02740): This "Magazine of Outdoor Commitment" combines a knowledge of the recreation industry, stories on various tours and adventures, and a multi-faceted perspective on man's impact on the wilderness. The latter is likely to be of most interest to FF readers, as they bring together everyone from Earth Firsters and Amory Lovins to mainline conservation groups to industry folks to discuss how we are to live and work and play and build in the wilderness. For the fun picture-filled pages, try visiting Prince Edward Island, crossing Antarctica, or rafting down the Yangtze. Plenty of ads give suggestions to the vacationer with money and spirit. (S-224t)

TURBOT O'BRIAN #3 (50¢ from Anatoly Productions, PO Box 41302, Tucson, AZ 85717-1302): A zine of the unexpected. This issue opens with a package of ashes glued to the front page and then continues with a list of gross things burned to produce the ashes. There are warnings of blasphemy, personal notes on the editors, a short story and a letter from Welch's about their grape jelly. (S-8)

TURNING THE TIDE Vol. III #4 ($5/6 issues from PART, PO Box 10488, Burbank, CA 91510): People Against Racist Terror are a

Wayne Hogan

group of punks and other youth concerned about racist groups, both within the punk world and outside of it, and trying to do something about it. They show up to counter-demonstrate at white power rallies, challenge racist propaganda in print, and network together a lot of other activists. Strong and useful stuff. (S-8t)

TWISTED IMAGE NEWSLETTER #19 ($1 from Ace Backwords, 1630 University Ave. #26, Berkeley, CA 94703): If you like the short Twisted Image cartoons appearing in this and other zines you should seek out more of Ace—and here he is. Besides reprinting the comic strip, he indulges in longer artistic rants (the Simpsons get nailed in #19) and talks about porn, revisionism, and other perversions. (S-8)

U&lc Vol. 17 #2 ($20/yr from ITC, 2 Hammarskjold Plaza, New York, NY 10017): A large-format colorful tabloid for graphic designers and desktop publishers. They publish all sorts of articles from the proper use of fonts to the connections between alphabets and art. They also review new software and offer expensive books for designers. Provokes some ideas, though most of those ideas are out of my price range. (O-68t)

UFO Vol. 5 #4 ($5 from California UFO, 1800 S. Robertson Blvd. #355, Los Angeles, CA 90035): These folks are doing a good job of pulling together the stories and information from various corners of the UFO world, and they don't mind if they gore a few oxen on the way. In addition to examining the abduction hypothesis from several angles, this issue looks at goofball whistleblower Bill Cooper and has a detailed piece on the latest wave of cattle mutilations. (S-48t)

□**UNDERESTIMATED** #1 (50¢ from Denise Scilingo, 733 Whitten Hall, Normal, IL 61761-6901): This is like some weird mutated supermarket teen magazine. There's a centerfold of Rick Springfield, a Corey Haim advice page, and other silliness. There's also instructions on cat's cradle (complete with string) and an interview with a local skateboarder. Very odd. (D-16)

□**THE UNDERGROUND S-CENSORED** #4-8 (Donation or trade for other HS undergrounds from Greg Carden, 7216 Briarcliff Dr., Springfield, VA 22153): A high school underground paper in the classic mode: anonymous, disrespectful, and a lot of fun. West Springfield High School does seem to have a large number of tightass leaders, judging by the minor needling that provoked strong reactions. Even with a few local references, the bulk is both funny and inflammatory, and what more could one ask for? (S-3r)

UNGAWA! ($5 from Flat 14, 46 Camden Square, London WW1 9XA, ENGLAND): A wide-ranging collection of sleaze. It starts off with stories on mass murderers Ed Gein and John Wayne Gacy, devotes a few pages to the fabulous cheesecake bondage career of Betty Page, and ends up with Spanish horror films. Along the way there's a history of monster movie magazines as well as reviews of such great flicks as *Hercules Against the Moonmen*. I enjoyed the piece on neglected writer Fredric Brown as well. (A4-32t)

UNION OF INCARCERATED BUT INNOCENT CITIZENS Vol. 1 #1 (Donation from Prometheus Society, PO Box 45126, Tacoma, WA 98445): This one is put together by Jacob Feuerwerker; you can write directly to him at PO Box 56-A187402, 3-E-35, Lebanon, OH 45036-0056, but in that case don't put the Union name on the envelope. In any case, this is the announcement of a new project which will concentrate on those in the inside who shouldn't be there. They're looking for specific cases to publicize further. (S-2)

THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH O'FUN TIMES #7 ("Whatever's Fun to send" from 4326 Woodstock Blvd. #666, Portland, OR 97206-6270): A newsletter that teaches what a great thing fun is in this world of ours. It's a mix of silliness and correspondence, zen and gonzo, that comes out pretty well. A temporary relief from the seriousness of it all. (S-4t)

THE UNMENTIONABLE #11 ($1.50 *CASH/stamps* from Miss Kelina, PO Box 7718, Berkeley, CA 94707): A selection of personal writing and bits of culture from someone who is apparently fascinated with people. Contents include a transcription of a long graffiti conversation from a Berkeley bathroom, free things you can get by mail, serialized fiction, and tales of the lives of real people. I was fascinated and got sucked into this one for a long while. (D-48r)

□**UNORTHODOX ACTIONS** #1-2 ($1 (?) from Jeff, 32 Pembry Rd., Ajax, ONT, L1S 6R3, CANADA): Skateboards are the glue that holds this zine together, with lots of photos (most pretty blurry), drawings, and details on where to skate and how to get away with it. But there's also some music coverage, a few interviews, politics, editorials, and comics. A varied trip through a skating life. (D-32)

THE UPRIGHT OSTRICH Vol. IX #6 ($25/yr from Peggy Poor, PO Box 11691, Milwaukee, WI 53211): Continuing news about The Elite and the other nefarious forces trying to control our country, from bankers to lawyers to closet commies. #6 features news about the S&L Crisis being possibly planned as well as the usual roundup of Constitutionalism from all over. (S-24t)

UPTON TEA QUARTERLY Vol. 1 #3 ($2/4 issues from PO Box 159, Upton, MA 01568): Actually, this newsletter is almost free, since subscribers get a $2 merchandise credit for the teas that Upton imports. Besides catalog material, this one will educate you about tea. There is an article in #3 about the meaning of "orange pekoe" (no, it has nothing to do with oranges) and another about the history of tea in Japan. (S-4t)

USSR NEWS BRIEF No. 3-5 1990 ($40/yr from Das Land und die Welt eV, Schwanthalerstrasse 73, 8000 München 2, WEST GERMANY): (Continuing updates on human rights cases in the USSR. #3 includes bad news about continuing persecution of people involved with the samisdat press in that country, as well as a couple of new individual cases. #5 has another long list of cases of repression of samisdat. (A5-8r)

UTNE READER #40 ($4 from 1624 Harmon Pl., Minneapolis, MN 55403): Coverage of issues of interest to modern liberals, culled from a variety of sources in the lesser-known corners of the press. #40 features different perspectives on Earth Day (including a delightful list of 50 *difficult* things to do to save the earth, culled from EARTH ISLAND JOURNAL). There's also a section on the great potential of television to do good (I thought we heard all this decades ago) and a potpourri of other issues and excerpts. (S-144t)

□**VAMPIRE ARCHIVES** #9-11 ($1 (?) from 2926 W. Leland, Chicago, IL 60625): This one is aimed at people who are either fascinated by stories of vampires or, apparently, those convinced that they themselves are vampires. Mostly it tracks media mentions, from tabloid news articles to new movies to a READER'S DIGEST article on the dangers of suntans. Dorothy Nixon has an interesting essay in #11 on her development as a vampire fan. (S-4)

VDT NEWS Vol. VII #3-4 ($87/6 issues from PO Box 1799, Grand Central Sta., New York, NY 10163): A bimonthly roundup of the latest research findings on the health aspects of computer and other VDT use, and the legal and medical responses. Despite continued studies, the jury is still out on the radiation aspects. However, injuries due to repetitive stress are a definite possibility of much VDT work, and designers are trying to address this. Worth a look for those of us who spend all day at the keyboard. (S-12t)

VEGETARIAN VOICE Vol. 17 #2 ($15/yr from North American Vegetarian Society, PO Box 72, Dolgeville, NY 13329): These people look beyond the dinner table to "Perspectives on Healthy, Ecological, & Compassionate Living". While this issue includes the fascinating results of a large-scale epidemiological study of diet (among other findings, aflatoxins may not in fact be a cancer risk), it also has a long article on the problems of zoos. Composting (without animal products) and recipes also get their pages. (S-40t)

A VERY SMALL MAGAZINE #13 ($1 from Beth Blevins, PO Box 221, Greenbelt, MD 20768): More delightful humor and literature in a mini format. This issue features excerpts from a couple of hybrid magazines: **PENTHOUSE AND GARDEN FORUM** and **TRUE TV GUIDED CONFESSIONS.** Tom Parker investigates philosophy without an object, while Donna Hovland explains the joys of living in Post Falls, Idaho. (M-16t)

VETERANS FOR PEACE JOURNAL #13 ($2 from PO Box 3881, Portland, ME 04104): VFP is a fast-growing group of vets who want to see war abolished within their lifetimes. They're active in a variety of peace movement areas, from supporting a nuclear test ban treaty to acting as observers in the Nicaraguan elections. They tend to be solid and work gently for things they really believe in, in a spirit of understanding and cooperation. (S-36t)

VETO Vol. 1 #2 ($2 from Veto Productions, 3514 rue Lacombe, Montreal, Quebec H3T 1M1 CANADA): Subtitled "Blue jeans sur la plage," this issue centers on the "underground quebecois" (especially if from Montreal). This issue contains a couple of poems (a change from the first issue), quite a chunk of comics, and some interesting ideas in page layout. Almost every centimeter of the magazine is visually crowded with print bleeding to the very edge of the page, and in one section the pages are stunning yinyangs of black and white. A story by Sebastien Hebert is the slangiest French I've ever seen, full of weird constructions, strange spellings, and unfamiliar words. This issue came packaged in a press packet that includes Veto no. 1 and factsheets on Les editions cooperatives Veto, which is cooperative venture designed to help young artists produce their own small magazines as a way to help promulgate the unique culture of Montreal. (D-50t)(Guest review by Geof Huth).

VIDEO VOICE #12 ($3 from Timothy Paxton, MPO Box 67, Oberlin, OH 44074-0067(): A fine (though somewhat sporadic) video zine that packs in a lot of features on a wide variety of topics. This issue has a section of interviews with other fanzine publishers, roundups of Fantasy and Martial Arts videos, and a listing of "budget animation". They profile Bradford Dillman, Howard Koch and Allan Carr as well. (S-36t)

VIRGINIA LIBERTY Vol. 6 #2 ($10/yr from PO Box 28263, Richmond, VA 23228): A state Libertarian Party newsletter that's suffering from a lack of writers and lack of interchange at the moment. They do manage to find some good free-market stuff, but like the article on "Tax Revolts of the Great Depression" in this issue, they';re often reprints. Stay tuned for a possible format change. (T-4t)

VIRGIN MEAT #10 ($2 from Steven Blum, 2325 West Ave. K-15, Lancaster, CA 93536): A small zine of Gothic fiction and graphics. There are some gems among these short and very short stories, including David Riley's apocalyptic "They Could Have Been Gods" and "Worms on the Brain" by Bucky Montgomery. No-frills presentation, but looking good nonetheless. (D-20r)

VITAL INFORMATION #2 (SASE, donation & Age Statement from PO Box 791377, New Orleans, LA 70179-1377): The results of a trolling expedition in the nöosphere. The information here concerns a lot of things, but civil liberties are foremost; they're especially enraged by people doing jail time for consenting acts in the privacy of their own bedrooms. There's also a push for recycling and environmental protection, a rant on traffic lights, and a partially explicit centerfold collage. (D-16r)

VOICES FROM SPIRIT Vol. 4 #1 ($4/yr from PO Box 5155, Ellsworth, ME 04605): The channeling mania seems to have largely abated, but it's still going strong here. In a twist, the folks at VFS chat with well-known folks. This issue includes interviews with Patrick Henry (who now opposes drug use and is upset at flag burners) and Odin—yes, the Norse god Odin. Also includes short fiction and new Age articles. (S-8r)

THE VOLUNTARYIST #44 ($3 from PO Box 1275, Gramling, SC 29348): A libertarian philosophical newsletter with the sensible tagline "if one takes care of the means, the end will take care of itself". Much of this issue is taken up by an article by Charles Tilly pressing the comparison between the state and a protection racket. I also enjoyed Charles Curley's comments on gun possession and property rights. (S-8t)

WAGE SLAVE WORLD NEWS Vol. 2 #5-6 ($12/12 issues from PO Box 3511, Madison, WI 53704): A humorous radical labor publication dressed up to look like a supermarket tabloid. #6 reports that the First Amendment was never ratified, features Red the clown being hauled off of his soapbox for protesting censorship, and picks on the AFL-CIO some more. A rather wobbly publication. (S-4)

WAKELEY'S REALISMS #9 ($1 & SASE from Joe Wakeley, 9 Oregon Ave., Palmyra, NJ 08065): Another two-page rant from Wakeley. This one is about changing the public school curriculum, essentially to include more civics class. he wants the Constitution and UN Charter drilled into students, along with basic knowledge of laws and taxes. (S-3)

WALKING-STICK NOTES #19 ($1 (?) from Cecil Curtis, 4051 E. Olive Rd. #231, Pensacola, FL 32514): A selection of notes and essays about walking sticks, as well as their cousins the canes and even the esoteric Zulu Stick in this issue. Editor Cecil Curtis keeps track of interesting books and other mentions of the subject, and seems truly fascinated by this nook of the world. (S-4)

W.A.M.M. Vol. 8 #2 ($30/yr from 3255 Hennepin Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN 55408): The peace movement is still alive, and Women Against Military Madness is one of its important nodes in the Twin Cities area. They come up with surprises among their calendar entries sometimes: #2 explains how they do freeway entrance mini-demonstrations, since drivers are stopped for a few seconds each, long enough to make eye contact. There's also a short essay from one of the Chinese students. (S-8t)

THE WASHINGTON REPORT ON MIDDLE EAST AFFAIRS Vol. IX #2-3 ($2 from PO Box 53062, Washington, DC 20009): A roundup of news and opinion on the Mideast, generally more sympathetic to the Arabs than the Israelis. The Intifada has been a constant presence in their pages for many issues now, and they try to present a range of pieces on the peace process, the Palestinians, and America's role in the area. They also excerpt many other journals. (S-70t)

THE WATCHER #2-3 ($5/yr from Realist Publications, PO Box 38-262, Petone, Wellington, NEW ZEALAND): New Left-Hand Path mystical journals are popping up all over these days. This one is outspokenly Satanist, owing a lot to Nietzsche and not a little to Crowley. There are detailed explanations in #2 trying to make it clear that Satanism is actually a well-developed realist moral system. #3 has a basic history of the Temple of Set and some amusing correspondence with the "Minister of Ideological Purity" from Radio Werewolf. (A4-8)

☐**WEBERWOMAN'S WREVENGE** #38 (A$2 or The Usual from Jean Weber, 7 Nicoll Ave., Ryde, NSW 2112, AUSTRALIA): A fanzine of science fiction and commentary. Actually there is rather more commentary than SF, though Jean does review a fair pile of books towards the end. There are also scenes from her life and new house, an article by Roger Weddall on fan funds, and an international cast of letter writers. (A4-16t)

✓☐**WEIRD CITY** #1 ($1 from Dave Szurek, 1311 Tower Ave., Raymond, WA 98577): A new entry on the horror movie zine scene by someone who's been writing in the area for decades. Dave explores some of the more ridiculous title changes, reviews a bunch of movies (good, bad, and so bad it's good), and tries to explain where he wants to go with the zine. He strongly encourages reader feedback. (S-25)

THE WEIRD NEWS #6 (Donation or SASE from Donald F. Busky, 7393 Rugby St., Philadelphia, PA 19138-1236): Politically-oriented humor in the form of short news stories. **FACTSHEET FIVE** even gets mentioned in one of them, though I hasten to add that the bastards haven't ground us down yet. The CIA, the soundness of America, and "Great Moments in Stupidity" all get ribbed here. (S-3)

WE THE PEOPLE #45 (Contact Michael Wolff, PO Box 704, South Houston, TX 77587-0704): An amateur press association devoted to politics that has a couple of unique features. One is a section of reprints at the front, which provides common ground for sparking discussion. Then there's the presence of a couple of literate conservatives, including my good buddy Jim Downard who is also serializing an alternative world SF novel here. Fun discussions that could perhaps use a bit of fresh blood. (S-77)

WET PAINT #28 ($2.50 from Jeff Smith, 2106 Tradewind Dr. #182, Mesquite, TX 75150): A movie zine that tends to be more literate than much of the competition, while still focusing on curious and even unsavory works. The lead articles here are about *The Flesheaters*, though that's balanced a bit later by the start of a guide to *Jonny Quest* episodes. Reviews of books, zines, and movies also pack a few pages of fine print. (S-22r)

☐**WHIPLASH** #10-11 ($1 from Darren Kraft, 8 Dogwood Dr., Newton, NJ 07860): A zine about bicycling, but not just riding down the street. It's for freestylers and ramp jumpers and other folks who do strange and wonderful things on bikes. It looks a lot like a skateboard zine, with plenty of photos, some music reviews, and letters, but there also seems to be a more active competitive community than the skaters have. Some of the photos here are awesome & scary. (S0-16r)

WHOLE EARTH REVIEW #67 ($20/4 issues from PO Box 38, Sausalito, CA 94966): The Whole Earth people continue to turn out lovely hopeful exciting looks at the cutting edge of the world. Two articles stand out in this issue: one is a look at Biosphere II, which proposes to seal up 8 people for 2 years in a pocket ecology; the other is a debate between Simon Garfinkel and K. Eric Drexler on the plausibility of nanotechnology. As always, they provide dozens of capsule reviews of books, magazines, catalogs, and unusual things you can get through the mail. Don't miss out. (S-144t)

☐**THE WILD FOODS FORUM** Vol. 1 #1-5 ($1 from Deborah Duchon, 4 Carlisle Way NE, Atlanta, GA 30308): A place to read about plants which you can find out on the range (or in the forest, depending on where you live), take home, and eat. #1 has notes on edible flora of the Grand Canyon article, while #5 considers the lowly dandelion in some depth. There's also an extensive calendar of plant-related events in the South. (S-6t)

WIND #66 ($7/3 issues from RFD Route-1, Box 809K, Pikeville, KY 41501): An irregular but reasonably frequent litmag. It stays away from the cutting edge, preferring instead to go in for poems and stories with a solid, traditional construction and tone. Often WIND seems to be the voice of small-town America, rural America, an America of decades past—one in which people lived lives that were complex and fulfilling without being overwhelmed by technology and novelty. (D-109t)

WINGSPAN Spring 1990 (Donation [suggested $25/yr] from PO Box 1491, Manchester, MA 01944): This is a journal for the rapidly growing men's spirituality movement, a looseknit network of men interested in regaining parts of their lives lost in the modern world. The Spring issue is largely focused on ritual and initiation, with lessons from the myths, an interview with Robert Moore (a Jungian analyst) and more. As always, there's an extensive calendar of men's events and plenty of sensitive writing. (T-20t)

WITNESS FOR PEACE NEWSLETTER Vol. 7 #2 (Donation from 250 Lincoln Ave., Syracuse, NY 13204): A newsletter addressing events in Central America and concentrating on Nicaragua. Naturally, this issue concentrates on the recent election and subsequent developments, focusing on continued contra aggression and US pressure. (S-16t)

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THE WONDERFUL WORLD NEWS Vol. 6 #5-6 ($10/yr from Ringer, 2525 Arapahoe Ave. #E4173, Boulder, CO 80302): #5 of this personal journal is all about beer, more or less, written with a great deal of humor. You'll learn the origins of the term "chug-a-lug", the connection between galoots and the gluteus maximus, beer toasts from around the world, and more. Best enjoyed with a tall cold one. #6 is devoted to the poetry (doggerel?) of Epcot Fitzgerald. (S-4t)

THE WONDERLAND TIMES Vol. II #6-7 ($6/6 issues from PO Box 20794, Baton Rouge, LA 70894): This one has grown into quite an interesting alternative newsmonthly since its founding. Part of the secret is a couple of distinctive features, including a straightforward column on growing dope and a "Dukewatch" page with news of the state government's most notorious Klansman. They also cover alternative student news and environmental concerns. (S-16t)

WOODPECKER #1 ($1 (?) from People's Justice Alliance, PO Box 281, Chattanooga, TN 37401): A new tabloid opposing the power structure and drawing on help from groups as diverse as the Green Party and the RCYB. They call for abortion on demand, legalization of drugs, and "the full criminalization of racism and sexism" among other things. Their rhetoric seems overstated in places and designed to dehumanize those they dislike, which worries me a bit. (T-12t)

WORKS #6 (£1.60 from 12 Blakestones Road, Slaithwaite, Huddersfield HD7 5UQ, UK): A science fiction zine with a jazzy layout and a penchant for stories that depart from traditional ideas about plot. It's been accused of being a "mood" zine and there's something to that, but there are also ideas here—just not often as linear as one is used to. Jim Steel takes the future down a notch in "Tom Brown's School Daze", while Duncan Adams does the same for prehistory in "Homo Pre-Sapiens". Nice art and a good lettercol, plus lots more short stories. (D-52t)

WORLD PERSPECTIVES Vol. 1 #6 ($17.50/12 issues from People's News Service, PO Box 3074, Madison, WI 53704): A well-packed collection of international news stories compiled largely from shortwave radio broadcasts. Human rights, wars, economic problems and other grim things tend to be the focus. Pakistani nuclear war preparations, the occupation of Panama, and the Palestinian problem are just a few of the topics here. (HL-32t)

☐**WORLD WAR II REVIEW** #2 (Contact Broadhead Publishing, Broadhead, Castleshaw, Delph, Oldham OL3 5LZ, ENGLAND): This is a perfectly serious magazine devoted to telling the stories of World War II while the participants are still alive. A variety of events pop up in this issue: the Bataan death march, the capture of the U-570, Dunkirk and Churchill's subsequent speech to Parliament, and more. References are given and they manage to work in some clear photos as well. (A4-16t)

WORLD WAR 3 ILLUSTRATED #13 $5 from PO Box 20271, Tompkins Square, New York, NY 10009): A collection of highly graphic pieces from the underbelly of the city, where people are fighting for their lives and dignity. Squatting, fighting sexism, trying to control their own bodies, these are the activities here. There are also stories on other struggles, as with Katya Kamisaruk's destruction of the NAVSTAR computer or a travel diary to Poland. An excellent way to convey ideas. (S-136)

☐**WRESTLING CHATTERBOX** #2-3 ($2 from Georgiann Makropoulos, 23-44 30th Dr., Astoria, NY 11102): A new wrestling bulletin which pays more attention to fan clubs and 900- hot lines than the others that I've seen. A bunch of people are writing bits and pieces of live action reports, gossip columns and the like, including a couple of industry types. A bit haphazard in the layout but full of info. (S-17)

WRESTLING OBSERVER 5/28/90-7/16/90 ($5/4 issues from PO Box 1228, Campbell, CA 95009-1228): This is the wrestling bulletin against which all others are measured (at least in terms of news; graphically, it is even less exciting than FACTSHEET FIVE). 6/18 is a special double issue reporting on the editor's tour of Japan, where wrestling is even bigger than it is here. 7/16 reports on a serious injury to Beefcake Brutus and has a guest ranking of the ten best matches of 1989. (S-10r)

WRESTLING PERSPECTIVE Vol. 1 #4-5 ($1 from PO Box 401, Camillus, NY 13031-0401): A well-written wrestling publication that concentrates on essays and analysis rather than quick match results. In #5 they consider the lack of respect shown by TBS to their wrestling audience. There's also an interesting analysis of why wrestlers should lose matches once in a while. (S-8t)

WRESTLING STYLE Vol. 1 #49 ($3/4 issues from PO Box 711, Lanham, MD 20703-0711): Having received only one issue of this weekly in the past two months, I have to wonder whether it's still going, but maybe they just dropped me from the list. WS is a flashy graphic wrestling zine that does pretty well within the limitations of dot-matrix print. Mostly they pass on the top headlines from each wrestling promotion, headlined by that promotion's logo. They also feature a reader's forum and the occasional photo. (S-8)

WRESTLING THEN & NOW #5-6 ($1.25 from Evan Ginzburg, PO Box 471, Oakland Gardens Sta., Flushing, NY 11364): Set the wayback machine, Sherman; this wrestling bulletin looks back into the days before the sport became big entertainment, as well as at current matches. #5 includes Florida wrestling from 1978, dental advice for wrestlers, memories of particular wrestlers, and the odd bit of gossip. (S-8)

WRITERS EXCHANGE #14 ($5/4 issues from RSVP Press, PO Box 394, Society Hill, SC 29593): A pretty skinny market and encouragement publication for new writers. They publish a few poems, review some music (after this issue they will only review tapes related to writing) and list a few dozen scattered markets. (S-8)

THE WRITE WAY #4 ($3 from Ann Larberg, 810 Overhill Rd., DeLand, FL 32720): A relatively new zine of market news and advice for (mostly) new writers. One twist is that it's available for drop-shipping; you can earn a commission on subscriptions you sell. Topics include copyright registration, the use of a pen name, and how to find time to write in a busy schedule. (S-4)

XENOFILE Vol. 1 #6 ($1.25 or The Usual from Con-Version, PO Box 1088, Stn. M, Calgary, AB, T2P 2K9, CANADA): A Canadian SF zine which focuses largely on running good conventions. As such, it is hardly surprising that most of this issue is devoted to views on the Pinekone debacle, in which one fan got personally stuck for a $10,000 debt. There are lots of letters and news on the subject here, including an explanation from the unfortunate Paul Valcour himself. (S—10t)

X MAGAZINE #3 (75¢ from PO Box 1077, Royal Oak, MI 48068): I'm not sure, but the desktop publishing skill may be running a wee bit ahead of content here. They get into the possibilities of automatic detournement thanks to technology, and slip in a batch of music reviews and a They Might Be Giants concert review. There is an article on the exclamation point, a bee-o-phobic essay, and filler classified ads. Hmmm, maybe the content isn't so low after all. (T-12t)

DaDa is a WhaT...?
MB

□**YARF!** Premiere Issue ($3 from PO Box 1200, Cupertino, CA 95015-1200): A new zine for lovers of Furries—anthropomorphic animals presented (mainly) in comic form. They propose to make their zine (this issue #0 is more of a prospectus than anything else) into a classy place for written and drawn Furry work to appear, while avoiding adults-only material. The look of this premiere is nice, and if they get the material it should be a fine zine. (S-8)

YEAH—WHATEVER #5 ($1 (?) from PO Box 4391, Metuchen, NJ 08840): The cover says "free", but postage stamps don't grow on trees. Here we have a small zine of essays and stories, featuring the ever-popular diner reviews (with time out this issue for a sleazy bar), as well as a plug for kung fu movies as an art form. The stories tend to be twisted little numbers, with people running afoul of such nasty folks as Richard Nixon and God. (HL-16)

YOUTH LIB #3 ($2 from Syndicate des Elèves, 2035 Boul. St-Laurent, Montreal, Que., H2X 2T3, CANADA): A collection of material in both French and English intended for radical and questioning young folks. There's information on safe sex, support for gay and radical youth, stories of actions that actually got somewhere, and so on They give a lot of contacts, talk to some young women about abortion, and encourage independent thinking. (S-34r)

□**ZAMIZDAT TRADE JOURNAL** Vol. VII (50¢ from Joel Haerting, 550 College Ave., Boulder, CO 80302): A networking project that comes out on different media as the spirit moves it. This issue is a collection of contact addresses for zines, cassettes, mail artists and others. Short descriptions and addresses are included, but no prices. (O-2t)

ZENDIK FARM #24 ($10/yr *CASH/MO to Cary Roberts* from Zendik Farm HQ, PO Box 1146, Boulevard, CA 92005): The Zendiks are a group of folks living communally and trying to save the earth. They're into erotic mysticism, practical farming, monkeywrenching and political action, and more. You can even visit the farm for a six-week apprenticeship these days. This issue talks about everything from music to abortion to what keeps the Death Kultur running, and has plenty of fiction and interviews with Tribe members as well. (S-72t)

ZENO-FILES Vol. 1 #2 (Donation from Oren C. Webster, PO Box 40311, Nashville, TN 37204-0311): A newsletter that combines Eleatic philosophy with examinations of modern science, generally to the latter's disadvantage. I've been out of the fray too long, and can no longer evaluate Oren's interpretation of quantum mechanics and relativity; he doesn't accord with what I remember to have been my understanding, but it's a confusing field and he does make some good points. (L-3)

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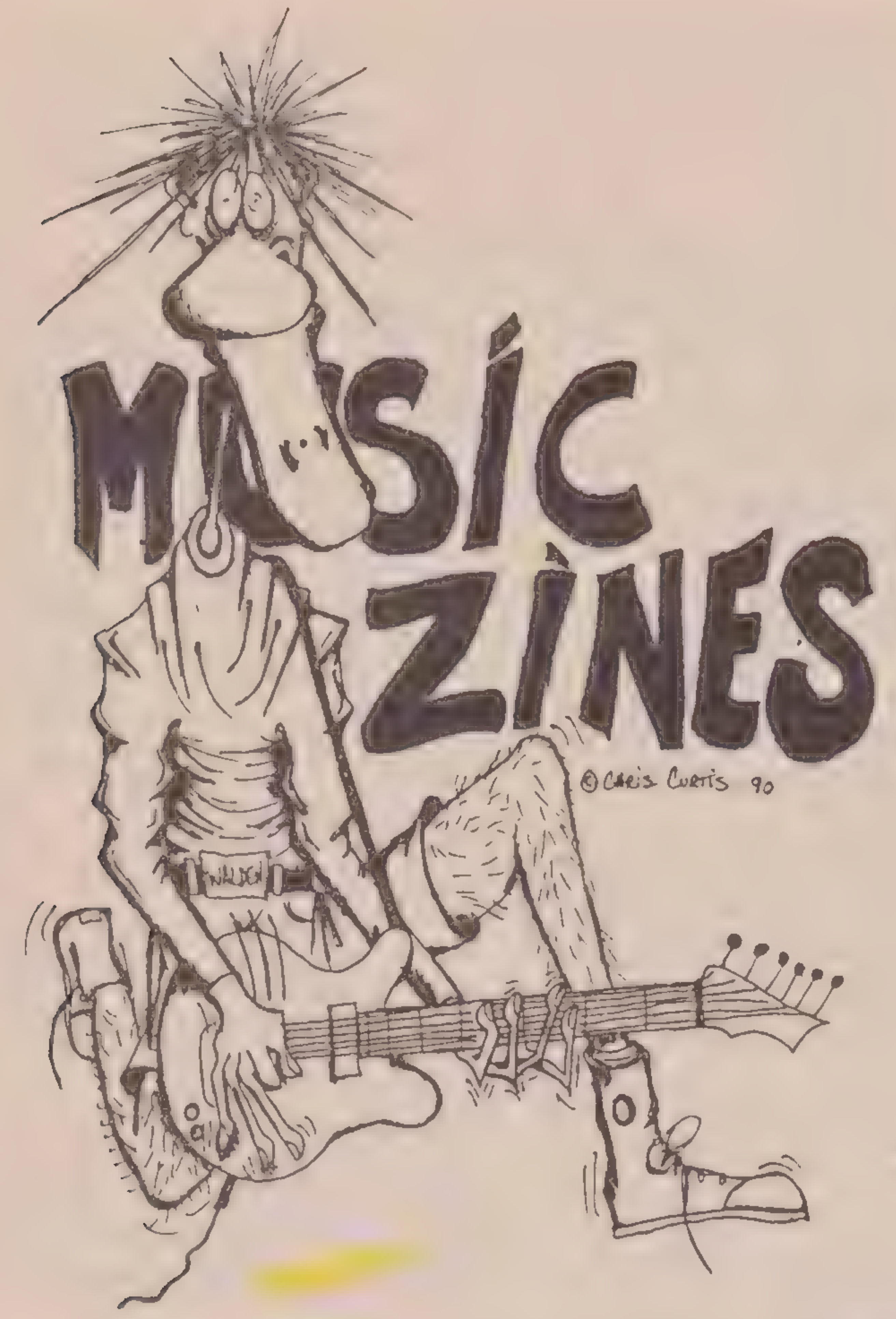

1/1 Vol. 6 #1 ($4 from The Just Intonation Network, 535 Stevenson St., San Francisco, CA 94103): This is a serious quarterly journal for composers and musicians working in Just Intonation—a different way of tuning instruments so as to put notes in simple whole-number relation to one another. Much of the material here is highly technical, as with the opening "Microtonal Resources of the Seven Limit" which requires some understanding of math as well as music. This issue has an index to the first five volumes included. (S-16t)

THE AFFILIATE June-July 1990 ($25/yr from 4322 Cleroux, Chomeday, Laval, Montreal, H7T 2E3, CANADA): A music networking zine which invites a number of strange columnists to share its pages before giving over much room to zine and other contacts. There's an almost New Age spirit here, a surviving hope in music as a tool for social change and networking. July is their annual anniversary extravaganza including lots of color photos. (S-36t)

□**THE ALTERED MIND** ($1.50 from PO Box 1083, Claremont, CA 91711): A new music zine which finds all sorts of wild stuff to fill in the crevices, such as a medieval recipe for stuffed pheasant . They report on some scuzzy TV rock awards, and then give serious consideration to bands like Heath Dog Violet and the Dead Milkmen. Closes with a stirring anti Pay-to-Play editorial. (S-16t)

ALTERNATIVE PRESS #28-29 ($24.95/yr from 1451 W. 112th St. #1, Cleveland, OH 44102): There are people who don't like **AP** apparently for no other reason than that they are big and slick-covered—which seems to me odd. Yeah, they look a bit like **ROLLING STONE**, but inside you'll find the Cramps, Nitzer Ebb, Bop (harvey), The Stone Roses, Skinny Puppy, and plenty of other alternative acts. Jack Rabid's gossip column is always fun, and I enjoyed the chat with Renegade Soundwave in #28. #29 has Loop, Ian Lowery, Tad and lots more. (O-70t)

ALTERNATIVE X #4 4 surface/$5 air from Resistance Prod., PO Box 426, 8026 Zurich, SWITZERLAND): A punk zine which still attempts to draw a strong line between punk and business. Chewiest piece here is an article from Conflict about their final, riot-torn gig in Brixton. News of Swiss politics and the pop star syndrome rubs with plenty of other music, Red London, a guide to punk symbols, and much more, all in harsh black & white. (D-68r)

ALTEROCK #6-7 (Contact Tamas Levay, Varju U. 4, Budapest - 1181, HUNGARY): An alternative music magazine written in Hungarian. It seems to be a mix of Hungarian musicians and international acts, with names like Cocteau Twins and Trottel recognizable even if not much else is to this confirmed unilinguist. The design and production are excellent, and I suspect they would be interested in contact with more Western magazines. (O-16t)

AMOK #8 (DM 3.50 from Fred Hopf, Schlangentalerweg 20, 6720 Bad Durkheim, WEST GERMANY): A zine of hardcore punk that's almost entirely in German, the exception being a test to find out how sexy punk girls are. They cover a mix of European and American groups, including Libido Boyz, Militant Mothers and Bullet LaVolta in this issue. Plenty of photos and lots of reviews. (A4-64t)

"...AND I FEEL LIKE AN ALARM CLOCK" #3 (2 stamps from Allen Salyer, PO Box 1551, Royal Oak, MI 48068-1551): A fanzine for folks who like Throwing Muses. It does the usual sorts of *fan*zine things: reprinted interviews, reviews of new projects, a constantly-updated discography, astrological charts for the band members, and so on. Of course the Breeders also get some mention in this issue. (D-20r)

BACKLASH June-July 1990 ($9/12 issues from 4128 Fremont Ave. N, Seattle, WA 98103): All the news you need to have about music in Seattle, which has become one of the prime centers of the indie scene. The June issue has an essential guide to area record labels (vinyl is *not* dead), plus a talk with Sweaty Nipples and all sorts of news shorts. Afghan Whigs make the cover of the July issue. (T-12t)

BACTERIA OF DECAY #3 (50¢ from 63 Lennox Ave., Buffalo, NY 14226): A small music zine that's decided to concentrate on lesser-known groups. This leads to interviews with folks like Choke, Platypus Scourge, and Trip 6 in this issue. There are little editorial bits on things like the need to boycott CDs and a small batch of record and zine reviews. (D-20r)

□**BALLOON RIDE** #1 (75¢ from Karl Hendricks, 813 Romine Ave., Port Vue, PA 15133): This is sort of a cross between a new music zine and a litmag, though I didn't find the somewhat disjointed stories to hold my attention very well. The music coverage, though, is pretty good, focusing on the Pittsburgh scene and being pleasantly chatty in both live and record reviews. Good Unsane interview too. (D-24t)

BANG! #21 ($1 & 2 stamps from 77 Newbern Ave., Medford, MA 02155): A combination of new music and women to ogle; this issue has interviews with both Gwar (who come off as stupid as ever) and Kitten Natividad. Unfortunately a lot of the photos are quite washed out, and **PENTHOUSE** centerfold Dominique St. Croix (another interviewee) does not exactly sparkle. On the music side you can also check out Transvision Vamp, the Lunachicks, and Tav Falco. (S-28t)

□**BANTHA FODDER!** #1 ($2 from Burt, 19 Gorslas, North Cornelly, Mid Glamorgan, CF334NG, South Wales, UK): A new punk fanzine that is still well in touch with the rebellious and social action side of the music; things like animal rights and anti-sexism seem to come up rather frequently in the interviews here. For the first issue, they chat with Axegrinder and Political Asylum, follow Cowboy Killers around for a day, and spend some time with Positive Force DC. Includes a Glasgow scene report and a stack of reviews. (A4-24r)

BANZAI #48-50 ($8/12 issues from PO Box 7522, Overland Park, KS 66207): Midwest rock and metal coverage centered on Kansas. #48 is a bit skinny since the editor and publisher just got married to one another. They bounce back in #49 with a whole string of live reviews, Kiss, Voi Vod and lots of local scene coverage. Dio makes the cover in #50 as they return to a monthly publication schedule. (T-20t)

□**BARKING SPIDER** #1-2 (50¢ (?) from Johnny Spider, 1800 S. Pantano Rd. #1114, Tucson, AZ 85710): A new zine which has published before it was really ready, but at least it's a start. The zine reviews are swiped from MRR and the record reviews are of classic old stuff. There's an interview with Bunny Brains and lots of downbeat poetry from the editor. #2 is much improved, with an article on Snakefinger, more poetry, zine reviews and an interview with Pro-Virus. (D-16r)

THE BEAT Vol. 9 #3 ($12/6 issues from Bongo Productions, PO Box 29820, Los Angeles, CA 90029): A world beat zine, with plenty of material on music from the Caribbean and Africa. This issue is largely devoted to Bob Marley. It includes a 1977 interview, some newly discovered tapes, Wailers tour tales and news on the Marley estate. There are also, of course, plenty of other news bits and reviews. (S-82t)

BEATLEFAN #3 ($3 from The Goody Press, PO Box 33515, Decatur, GA 30033): A fanzine in the truest "fan" sense, all for lovers of the Beatles. This issue concentrates on the recent McCartney studio tour, with city-by-city reports covering everything from gate grosses to the state of Paul's voice. There's a look back on the 20th anniversary of the band's breakup and an attempt to select the best solo work the four ever did as well. (S-34t)

BELOW MY WINDOW LURKS MY HEAD (2 stamps from Allen Salyer, PO Box 1551, Royal Oak, MI 48068-1551): This Pixies fanzine may prove to be a one-shot—this issue was released in conjunction with the most recent **"...AND I FEEL LIKE AN ALARM CLOCK"** to celebrate the appearance of The Breeders' "Pod". It features a couple of reports on seeing the Pixies, a discography, some trivia and of course pix of the band. (D-8r)

BEN IS DEAD #9 ($1.50 from PO Box 3166, Hollywood, CA 90028): A music zine that manages to be centered in the LA club scene without turning into a dreary gossip fest. Instead, there are interesting letters, live reviews (A Suckdog show gets a whole page in this issue) and interviews. There are also pages on non-musical concerns such as AIDS or Malathion spraying, and of course reviews of recirded music. Getting better all the time. (S-40t)

THE BIG TAKEOVER #28 ($3.50 from Jack Rabid, 249 Eldridge St. #14, New York, NY 10002): This is the 10th anniversary issue, and Jack celebrates it in a suitably rabid fashion, with a list of the top 700 albums of 1975-89 (and just to dissuade those of you who think I know something about the field, I've only heard about a dozen of his top 100. There are also interviews with Buzzcocks, Social Distortion, Bad Religion and more, and of course his picks out of the 500 or so records he's received in the last month. Still one of the best places to read informed opinion about indie music. (S-114r)

BLAH BLAH BLAH Vol. 2 #7 ($1 from KRUX 91.5 FM, Box 30001 - NMSU, Las Cruces, NM 88003-0001): A playlist and program guide with an ear towards new and often experimental music. This issue features fIREHOSE and sampling musician Tom Ellard, plus the Rave-Ups. (T-8t)

BLITZ #289-294 (75$00 each plus IRCs(?) from Rua Sacadura Cabral, 26, Dafundo, 1495 Lisbon, PORTUGAL): A weekly Portuguese music tabloid in its sixth year of publication, **BLITZ** covers a broad range of rock music. Most of the performers covered are mainstream (Robert Plant and Suzanne Vega, for example), but there is fairly heavy coverage of Iberian bands unknown to us in the U.S. and even a taste of what's happening in Africa. Most issues include a full-color poster of some mainstream artist, and each issue lists the top 25 songs in Portugal (with Madonna's "Vogue" at number 1 for all of these weeks). I was happy to see some coverage of Lou Reed and the Velvet Underground: one in a small story about Vaclav Havel, the president of Czechoslovakia, and his appreciation of Lou Reed; and another brief mention of a 20-minute Velvet Underground reunion during which they played "Heroin." (T-28t) (Guest review by Geof Huth.)

BLONDIE FANZINE Vol. 2 #10 ($1 from Robert S. Robbins, 1997 Misner Rd., Williamsport, PA 17701): Fanzine coverage of Debbie Harry and the band Blondie. Robbins reprints most anything he can find about her, including photos scanned into his computer. This issue also notes some classic fanzines with Blondie coverage and prints reviews of her latest album lifted from French periodicals. (S-6t)

BLUE SUEDE NEWS #14 ($5/4 issues from PO Box 25, Duvall, WA 98019): A zine for classic rock, blues, and related genres. Much of this issue is a memorial to Del Shannon, who grew up in the Seattle area and just recently died. There's also pieces on Carl Perkins, the Elvis TV series, and (for some reason) Finnish rock fanzines (S-16t)

THE BOB #39 ($4 from PO Box 7223, Wilmington, DE 19803)One of the best sources for coverage of music in the college-radio format (as well as some other things, such as the continuing series on Australian new music). There's a flexi here with the Mekons, Psychedelic Furs and Died Pretty. The written part also includes Dead Milkmen, Thin White Rope, Galaxy 500, and many more current rave bands. (T-64t)

BOSTON ROCK #103 ($15/10 issues from T. Lozaw, PO Box 371, New Town Branch, Boston, MA 02258): Maybe it's the coverage of the annual Rumble, but this issue seems real heavy on live music reviews—at least Boston still has some good spots for live music left. The Cramps make the cover (their PR people must be working overtime) and Thin White Rope and O Positive also get some space. (T-20t)

☐**BRASSNECK** #1 ($1 (?) from Chip Porter & Tim Sendra, 4746 Northgate, Ann Arbor, MI 48103): Chip and Tim haven't figured out how to write record reviews yet but that doesn't stop them and they're having a lot of fun trying. They also interview the Verlaines and publish some short fiction and a couple of essays about whether going bald is cool, or even tolerable. (S-24t)

BREAKFAST WITHOUT MEAT #13 ($1.75 from PO Box 15927, Santa Fe, NM 87506): A music zine with some weird ways of looking at the world. Perhaps the best bet is Gobo's record reviews; Gobo writes the reviews the rest of us just dream about. Then there's the interview with Tiny Tim and the one with session drummer Hal Blaine, plus the article on Dora Hall. Enjoyable but severely different from everyone else. (S-24t)

☐**THE BRITISH PUNK COLLECTOR** #1 ($2.50 from David Thompson, 3803 Halfturn Rd. #234, Colorado Springs, CO 80917): A new zine for people interested in punk and new wave music from the collector's point of view. The premiere issue opens with the Buzzcocks, and also has articles on the Adverts, John Cale, the Dickies, and the Sex Pistols—the latter quoting ridiculously high auction prices for Pistols collectibles. Well-written and the research looks fine to me. (S-24)

B-SIDE June/July 1990 ($18/6 issues from PO Box 1860, Burlington, NJ 08016): A music zine that generally touches down on current critical and college favorites: for example, there's a review of a show from Sonic Youth's last tour with apparently no other purpose than to promote their new album. Other band stories cover Nine-Inch Nails, Stone Roses, Transvision Vamp, Token Entry, and even Warren Zevon. Rapidfire album reviews round out the offerings. (S-48t)

BUZZ #54-55 ($4/4 issues from PO Box 3111, Albany,NY 12203): Our local zine of new music and cool bands coming through the clubs in Albany. In #54 you've got Caterwaul, local favorite Mike Eck, Ultra Vivid Scene and the obscure arty European KMFDM. #55 has Renegade Soundwave, Henry Rollins and Loop. Plenty of record and show reviews too. (S-32r)

CATHARSIS #11 ($2 from PO Box 3181, Suffolk, VA 23434): Mostly music from Tidewater Virginia here, though they get off into other byways at times. They're real concerned with the face of local radio, and print some comics, for example. #11 also has a stirring essay arguing for women's right to urinate standing up. Rap, local gossip, and Scott Miller are also featured. (T-16t)

CD REVIEW DIGEST JAZZ, POPULAR, ETC. Vol. 4 #1 ($18/4 issues from The Peri Press, PO Box 348, Voorheesville, NY 12186-0348): These folks excerpt reviews of every CD they can track down from sources as diverse as **THE NEW YORK TIMES, OPTION, HI-FI NEWS** and even **FACTSHEET FIVE**. All in all over 2000 CDs are reviewed here, and full citations are given so you can track down longer mentions elsewhere. There's complete indexing and other nice touches like a list of mail-order sources for CDs. A valuable reference. (S-202t)

☐**CLEAN ZINE** (25¢ from 23 Alan Dr., Parsippany, NJ 07054): A mix of music, skating and thrown-together bicycles for crazy people. Uppercut gets a batch of musical attention, there's plenty of photos, and a good chunk of environmental material. A bit scattered, but nice. (D-28)

CLOT Vol. 1 #4-5 ($24/yr from PO Box 3330, Northglenn, CO 80233): A music tabloid that gets into some unusual subjects: tattoos, trademarks and graffiti are all in #4, as is an interview with author/musician Kurt Brecht. They look at the women behind some of the men in local rock, talk to Sick of It All and Faith No More, and generally have a hard-rocking good time. Growing up fast. #5 goes after the local group of rock censors and features yetanother Gwar interview. (T-28t)

CONCERTINA & SQUEEZEBOX #23 ($15/4 issues from PO Box 2343, Bellingham, WA 98227): A magazine for players and lovers of "free reed" instruments—which includes concertinas, accordions, and the like. The issue at hand has some basic advice on learning to play the concertina, starting with the ergonomics of he instrument. There are also features on musicians from the early days of recording on forward, active reader participation through letters and ads, and a friendly feeling. A class act. (HL-56t)

CONFLICT #51 ($2.75 from Gerard Cosloy, PO Box 264, New York, NY 10009): Back after too long an absence, **CONFLICT** remains a prime place to go for informed opinion on new music (as opposed to the sort of uninformed opinion you can find just about anywhere). Reviews are the heart here, tackling everything from Public Enemy to Soundgarden to Antiseen, with each record getting the amount of space it takes to describe it well. An interview with Mark from Unrest wraps around the outside of the zine. (S-32t)

□**CONTROVERSY #101 #1** ($1.85 from PO Box 3694, Rapid City, SD 57709): This one comes from Todd who used to do **PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE** zine but felt it was time for a change. There's interviews with Dissent and Painful Xtremities, plus a long essay on the Bad Brains and the controversy (there's that word) over their possibly homophobic lyrics. Todd also reviews the music he gets and offers free ad space to those that send it. (S-32)

CURIOUS GOODS #2 ($2.25 from Jerry Rutherford, 3754 Almond Dr., Oxnard, CA 93030): A heavy metal zine with east coast roots despite the recent move to the Pacific. Interviews and stories in this issue on Princess Pang, Eviction, Intruder, Apocrypha, Powermad, and more. They review a wide selection of demos as well as new material. (S-32r)

CUT #9 ($2 from Steve Erickson, 11 Julian St., Norwich, CT 06360): **CUT** has grown to the point where Steve is ready to quit reviewing everything he gets, even if he thinks it sucks, but he still makes the valiant effort in this issue. Other than reviews, you get interviews with Cop Shoot Cop, Prong, and Boston's Green Magnet School. Steve's reviews do a good job of ignoring press release pap and independently evaluating the substance of a recording. (S-22r)

THE CUTTING EDGE #75-77 ($1 from Dan Kennedy, 8303 Hilton Way, Orlando, FL 32810): A zine of Christian underground and contemporary music that leads off with a batch of reviews before getting into feature articles. The centerpiece of #75 is probably the analysis of Van Morrison, which is carried out well. Plenty of contacts for people who want to find out more about CCM as well. In #76 Jamie Lee Rake has several interesting bits on the shape and justification of CCM. (S-12t)

DAGGER #12 ($2 *CASH* from Tim Hinely, PO Box 460, Somers Point, NJ 08244): A music zine that is mostly wall-to-wall reviews, zines, live shows, records, singles, tapes, they're all here (CDs being conspicuous by their absence). That's cool, Tim writes well and slams things that need slamming while keeping an open mind about the rest and knowing his stuff when it comes to punk and other strange new music. Also includes stuff on Surgery, the Bastards, and a couple of other bands. (S-30r)

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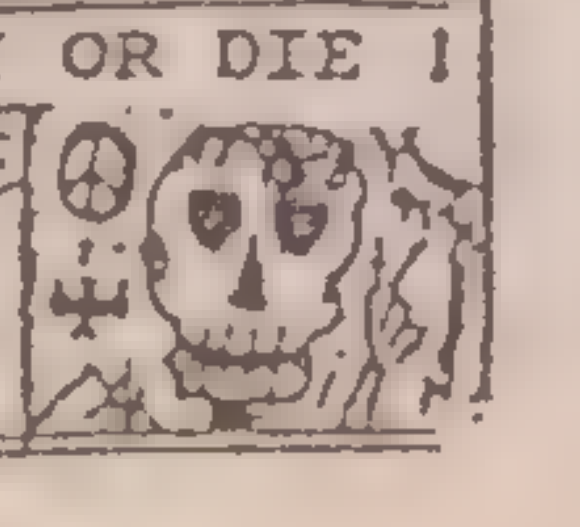

THE DAMASCUS CHRONICLE Vol. VIII #2 (On request from 1112 Cherrywood Dr., Mt. Prospect, IL 60056): A newsletter chronicling the doings of the band Damascus. Since they're a Christian band, it includes quite a bit about topics such as God and prayer as well. This issue reports the departure of one member of the group and the way in which they've decided to change to accommodate this. (L-4)

DAWN IS UGLY #2 ($2 from S. Archer, 7 Creek Rd., Camp Hill, PA 17011): A music zine with a lot of contacts listed, though there's not a whole lot of depth yet—but it's an improvement over the first issue, and what more can you ask for? Interviews with Glee Club, Moral Crux, Pink Lincolns, a pile of zine contact addresses, and a White Boy poetry chapbook all go into the makeup of this zine. (S-18)

DEADBEAT #2 (35p. from 3 Freeland Place, Bristol BS8 4NP, UK): A music zine with such unusual features as hints for doing graphics cheap and an original-sounding review of **FACTSHEET FIVE**. On a more musical tack, they interview Dissent, Cringer, and Visions of Change in this interview. There are the expected music and zine reviews too, and some distorted downbeat graphics. Quite well put together. (S-24r)

DEADZINE #3 ($1 from Steve Swart, PO Box 267, Otisville, MI 48463): A small music zine with a punk feel to it. There's a few reviews, an interview with Libido Boyz and a couple of opinion pieces on topics like South Africa and Earth Day. Also includes a scene report from Flint Michigan. (S-14r)

DIET SOCIETY #1 (2 IRCs & a donation from Hated Jon Martyr, Suite 83, St. James Place, 673 Upper Hamilton St., Hamilton, ONT, L9C 5R9, CANADA): A new zine which spends at least as much space discussing the scene as it does the music proper. Local reviews, zine reviews, essays on problems in the pit and sexism and hate in general, all pull together. The editor sounds terribly frustrated with the world. (D-18)

DISCORDER June-July 1990 ($15/12 issues from Room 233, 6138 SUB Blvd., Vancouver, BC, V6T 2A5, CANADA): A college music zine that always manages a few interesting things in their tabloid format, from live show reviews to solid comics coverage. The June issue also has an interview with Psychic TV, some of new music's most curious people, plus a free fluorescent sticker. July sports a nifty psychedelic color cover and a Nitzer Ebb centerfold. (T-32t)

DISCOTEXT June-July 1990 ($15/yr from Box 103, 8415 Granville St., Vancouver, BC V6P 4Z9, CANADA): This one comes from a dance music club, but you never know what will turn up in its pages beyond schedules and record reviews. June is a great issue, with an article on the music scene in Nairobi (that's in Kenya, in case you didn't know) and a new angle on the CD vs. vinyl debates: what it will do to deejays and dance music in general. A fine issue. (S-24t)

DISCOURSE #10 ($2.60 from Mike Shanley, 6433 Landview Rd., Pittsburgh, PA 15217): This one has been absent from the scene for a long while, but Mike has the new issue out at last and it's packed with good interviews. He talks with Maureen Tucker, Algebra Suicide, saxophonist Tim Berne and Universal Congress Of, to name a few. A bunch of records from the major indie labels also get reviewed here. (S-29r)

□**DISOBEY #5** ($1 from Wendy & Dale, 3739 Oak Glen Dr., Newbury Park, CA 91320): A fat punkzine that pays attention to the socially responsible side of things as well as the music. Environmentalism is big in this issue. There's Libido Boyz, No Fraud, and Nausea interviews, among others, and lots of zine and record reviews. Don't know how they hold the price down, 'cause there's a lot packed in here. (S-42r)

DO IT #7 ($1 from Edward, PO Box 90, 8500 Kortrijk, BELGIUM): This one opens with some reports from the local straight edge and spoken word scene. Then it spends the rest of the zine on an interview with Dave Smalley, former singer for DYS, Dag Nasty, and All. I'd say don't write unless you're a Smalley fan, as this is also announced to be the final issue, though Eric says he'll be back soon with a new zine in Dutch. (A4-4)

□**THE DOORS QUARTERLY #20-23** ($17/4 issues from Rainer Moddemann, Am Oelvebach 5, D. 4150 Krefeld-Stratum 12, WEST GERMANY): A fan magazine for folks who remember and still love the Doors, supported by surviving members of the group. They track bootleg releases, interview people who knew Jim Morrison, and report on what went on in those fateful days of the late 60s. Lots of photos, free mini-posters, and letters arguing whether Morrison really died or not. Mostly in English with a few German bits. (D-48r)

□**DREAMS WORD #6-7** ($2 from Electronic Dreams, PO Box 42385, Portland, OR 97242): A newsletter of electronic (or, as they are considering calling it, "esotronic") music, from the musical realm of Tangerine Dream and J.M. Jarre. It features reviews and interviews plus discussions of the future of this music. #6 leads off with a Michael Garrison interview, #7 has Mark Dwane on the cover. (S-20t)

☐**DREGS** #3 ($2 from Duncan Dregs, PO Box 110, Liverpool L69 8DP, UK): A music zine that gets off into some odd corners—there's an anonymous essay about sex here which will probably provoke comment, and much writing about whether time is actually speeding up. Interviews with Fugazi and the Joyce McKinney Experience and reviews make up the music side. There's also some advice on selling fanzines at live shows. (D-40r)

ECHOES 1/90 ($5 *CASH* from Timo Nurmi,c/o The Ball Toys, PO Box 93, SF-33501 Tampere, FINLAND): A Finnish-language rock zine which seems to focus in on classic genres like rockabilly and psychedelia—the Kinks show up in this issue, among lots of other bits. There's a few short reviews in English, plus a worldwide contact address list. (A4-28t)

EXPERIMENTAL MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS Vol. VI #1 ($3.50 from PO Box 784, Nicasio, CA 94946): A fine journal of unusual things that make sounds. This issue features a surprise appearance by tentatively, a convenience and his Portable Booed Usic Busking Unit. There is also further information on making instruments out of dried kelp, a fine article on microtonal instruments, and reviews of cassettes featuring unusual instruments. (S-24r)

FILE 13 #7 ($2 from Mark Lo, PO Box 175, Concord, MA 01742): More than music here, actually, like the letters from a post-Tianenmen tour of China. On the noisy side, there's a fascinating interview with J.S. Laboratories and a "Yo! File 13 Raps" column that's pretty good. All the reviews are carefully done, whether they are of video, CS, fanzines or tapes. You can trust what they have to say here. (S-36r)

FLIPSIDE #66 ($2 from PO Box 363, Whittier, CA 90608): Punk music from Southern California and beyond. This issue has a great interview with Steel Pole Bathtub, L7 acting obnoxious in Hollywood, Big Drill Car, Anus the Menace, Chi Pig and much more. I should mention their design, too, since over the years **FLIPSIDE** has become a pretty classy looking typeset publication, still punk but with a lot of attention to looks. An essential part of the scene. (S-88t)

FOSTER CHILD July 1990 (30¢ from 7635 Marcy Ct., Glen Burnie, MD 21061): A four-pager of music and zine reviews with no nonsense. If you read **FF** you'll have seen a few before, since Tony Miller reprints some of my reviews, but the vast bulk are by other folks. A wide and somewhat random walk through underground and indie music. (S-4r)

GLEET #4 ($2 from The Fixtures, PO Box 16283, Encino, CA 91416-6283): A zine put out by and devoted to the Fixtures, an up and coming Southern California creative punk band. Besides reprinting their own press coverage, interviews, and reviews, they provide a good window on the club scene in the LA area. Specifically, they have advice on which places are worth playing, as well as on other aspects of the business like getting t-shirts made. If you're in a band in the LA area this is definitely worth getting. (S-42r)

GOOD DAY SUNSHINE #55 ($10/6 issues from Charles Rosenay, 397 Edgewood Ave., New Haven, CT 06511): Yes, there are still Beatles fanzines, and this is one of the best. GDS reports all the latest news on the surviving members of the band as well as their associates (the Beatles' chauffer gets profiled in this issue). The McCartney tour is still the big news, with a whole pile of concert reviews here. (S-48r)

☐**GUITAR** July 1990 ($27.95/12 issues from PO Box 2078, Knoxville, IA 50198-7078): A slick guitar magazine "For the Practicing Musician". The emphasis is on learning how to play as well as the big names, with a mix of interviews and note-for-note transcriptions in each issue. July includes Ace Frehley, Steve Vai, Johnny Marr and Yngwie Malmstein. They also tuck in technical and networking columns. (S-174t)

☐**GUITAR EXTRA!** #1 ($3.50 from Cheery Lane Music Co., 10 Midland Ave., Port Chester, NY 10573-1490): A new magazine for guitar players who want to move outside of the loud and furious electric rock and metal world. It features transcriptions and articles on every style from pop to country to jazz. Pat Metheny, Albert King, and Paul Simon are among the artists in #1. (S-104t)

HOT STOPS #16 ($2 from PO Box 1333, Lombard, IL 60148): This one seems to be moving more towards the indie music scene, with interviews with David La Duke and Sabre in this issue. But they still remain a *fan*zine for major music as well, reviewing classic re-issues of Hendrix and the like. Then there's the current demo tape revoews. Basically, if it's music, they're interested, which makes the contents pretty unpredictable. (S-24r)

☐**THE INCREDIBLE SHRINKING FANZINE** #2 ($2 *CASH* from Nerve-Centre, 28 Howe Park, Edinburgh, EH10 7HF, SCOTLAND): Actually, this one grew after its first issue, but who said zine names had to make sense? The look here is very punk, with little wasted space (though they do find room for some humor and bizarre stories). Political Asylum, UK Subs, Naked Raygun and Axe Grinder are among the groups in this issue. (A4-24r)

THE INSIDER #11-13 ($10/yr from PO Box 1512, Arlington, VA 22204): Local music news and gossip in a quarter-legal format . #11 features Circus Mind while #12 has The Holies on the front cover. There's all sorts of club news as well, plus reviews of recent releases. (M-8t)

☐**INTENSE EXPRESSION** #4 ($2 from Tim Burton, 5045 Piccadilly, Madison, WI 53714): This zine is still learning and growing, and has its juvenile moments (the interview with a batch of high school cronies on reasons to like "boobs" in this issue stands out) but overall it seems to be developing an interesting style. Moral Crux, Kavity Creeps, a report on a 7 Seconds show, and Bludgeoned Nun are among the attractions here. The layout is a bit cluttered without being overwhelming, and the spirit of sharing and fun is definitely here. (S-40)

INTERNATIONAL CONTACT ZINE #2 (2 25¢ stamps or 2 IRCs from 1045 Haman Way, Roseville, CA 95678): The format here is quite simple. ICZ is a collection of ads for bands, labels and zines from all over the world, and they'll run your ad if you send a couple of stamps along with it. Back to the grassroots punk heritage. (D-16r)

INTERNATIONAL TAPETRADERS LIST #2 ($1 *CASH* from Kris Verreth, Tervuursestwg 1H, 3081 Perk, BELGIUM): A computer listing of dozens of people around the world interested in trading tapes with others who are likewise inclined. They also keep track of those who've ripped off network members in an informal blacklist. More listings are welcome. (A4-10)

IT RAD LIHR #24 (50¢ (?) from PO Box 472084, Tulsa, OK 74147): A small zine about the local music scene, with plenty of names of bands and brief descriptions of what they're up to lately. There's also notes on where to play and listen plus some flagburning and broccoli-eating to displease the Chief Executive. (HL-8r)

JERSEY BEAT #40 ($2 from Jim Testa, 418 Gregory Ave. #2, Weehawken, NJ 07087): JB is still going strong and looking better than ever. This issue has an interview with Adenalin OD and one with Kryst The Conqueror. Then there's a section on ABC No Rio and some SXSW coverage, and of course tons of reviews from local Jersey bands to national acts. Jim also has some sage things to say about our music getting co-opted by the major labels. (S-64t)

☐**JT** #3 (Contact Weke Keränen, Vuolikaisentie 10, 95420 Tornio 2, FINLAND): No price on this large-format slick music magazine, so you'd better write and inquire. The editor says this Finnish-language zine is "enlightened hardcore"; it's got a safe sex comic as well as interviews with Poison Idea, Disorder and Paska (which is apparently Finnish for "shit"). There's also a report on life in Albania and an article on an AIDS education group. (O-20)

LIVING FATALITY #4 ($1.50 from Chris Henderson, 401 W. Marshall St., Elkhorn, WI 53121): A music zine which wanders all over the alternative scene, from the Gomers to Old Skull. All the reviews are dressed up with little doodles in the margins for a rather unique look. There's also a vacation travelogue and a strong anti-homophobia essay. (S-20)

LOOK AGAIN #2 ($2 from PO Box 1090, Hudson, NH 03051): There's an awful lot of new music here, from all corners of the punk world—especially impressive when you realize this is only their second issue. The list of albums alone reviewed is phenomenal. For interviews, try Cro-Mags, Corrosion of Conformity, Maelstrom, and plenty more. Impressive. (S=40r)

☐**LOUDER THAN GOD** #1 ($2 from Theron Moore, 900 W. Ninth St., Belvidere, IL 61008): A solid new heavy metal zine. Theron's style is sort of loose interviews, chats with the bands distilled down to interesting stuff rather than just transcribed. This first issue includes Suicidal Tendencies, Sick of It All, Sacred Reich, Anacrusis and a bunch more loud folks. Off to a good start. (S-20)

MAXIMUM ROCKNROLL #85-86 ($2.50 from PO Box 288, Berkeley, CA 94701): MRR still reviews more records than **FF** (and with much better coverage in the punk and hardcore arenas); it's nice to know that someone does. There's also an incredible amount of ferment from the punk scene here, from live show reports to columns (Eugene Chadbourne talks about the Plunderphonics case in #85) to letters to band and zine reviews. Social consciousness is a big part of this, but the music is bigger. Immense and impressive. Interviews with Econochrist and Pink Lincolns are among the many in #86. (S-128t)

MERE PSEUD MAG #3 ($2 from Warzone, PO Box 148, Belfast BT1, NORTHERN IRELAND): A music zine with plenty of music and plenty of political/social stuff as well. On the former, try Victim's Family, Anhrefn, and F.U.A.L. for starters. On the latter tack, we have discussion of the troubles in Northern Ireland, hunt sabbing, and a stupendously moving piece on incest and rape. Plenty more goes on in the corners here, and the layout is punk-cluttered without being boring and impenetrable. (D-40r)

MLC Vol. 4 #2 ($5 from Linda & Peter Weinzettl, PO Box 1213, Stn. B, Downsview, ONT, M3H 5V6, CANADA): A fanzine for lovers of Madonna and her varied musical and acting career. They report on the latest concerts, give extensive lists of what new merchandise is available, and even have a few notes on bootleg tapes of the latest tour. Lots of *Dick Tracy* news in this issue. (S-28t)

☐**MODERN TABOO** #1 (1 stamp from PO Box 55138, Atlanta, GA 30308-0138): A mix of music, photocopied art, and madness. There's an essay on kundalini energy from the Temple Ov Psychick Youth, an interview with Death In June, and reviews of music from the dark, gothic, experimental side of things. Self-programming by a variety of techniques seems to be the focus here. (S-8r)

MOE WORKS AT WAL-MART Vol. 2 #3 ($1 from 1213 1/2 E. new Orleans, Tampa, FL 33603): A music zine that covers stuff from the punk revolution to the present: Blake Babies, Richard Hell, Pandoras, the Embarassment all get press in this issue. I find that I agree with their well-presented opinions enough on the records that I know that I am inclined to pay attention to what they say about other ones. (S-16)

MOSHABLE #7 ($2 from Lars Krogh, Stolpedalsvej 61/veer. 13, 9000 Aalborg, DENMARK): An English-language (though there are some amusing transcription errors) zine of new music. Featured bands here are Mucky Pup, DOA, Death Angel, Don't Know and a few more. There's a true international feel here, along with a serviceable layout that highlights the band photos and a batch of reviews. (A4-32r)

MOUTH #7 ($8/12 issues from Futura Press, PO Box 2069, Decatur, GA 30030): A music zine that mixes big names (Ace Frehley, Alice Cooper, the Ramones in #7) with newcomers (Swimming Pool Q's and Dirt). They go for an expansive, photo-heavy layout, and probably do pretty good music store business. Not too much depth, but enough to bring back memories of loud music past. (T-8t)

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JEANNE
awaiting
INSPIRATION
TO SING
"Don't Cry For Me
ARGENTINA"
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☐**MUSIC TO DIE FOR** #1 (2 stamps & a quarter from Jes, 2809 Princeton Pike, Lawrenceville, NJ 28226): A new music zine which exists to insist that "hardcore was never meant to promote peace and love. It was put on the earth to create hatred and violence!". In other words, they go after the posi-core folks with a vengeance. Interviews in this issue include Combat Stance, Antiseen, Bazooka Joe and Sister Ray. (D-40)

MY KINDA ZINE #2-3 ($1 (?) from Michael Peace, 3705 W. 68th #405, Westminster, CO 80030): A zine of music and punk culture. There's a lot of discussion of flagburning in #2. Michael also talks to Dave from **INFINITE ONION** zine and reviews a pile of zines and records. #3 reprints a pile of Phantasmorgasm posters and a TVTV$ interview. (S-14)

☐**NETWORK NEWS** Spring 1990 (£8/4 issues from Earthly Delights, PO Box 1QG, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne, NE99 1QG, ENGLAND): A newsletter for fans of Nocturnal Emissions, an experimental musical outfit. They skip back and forth from their own work to sundry other topics, instruments, rock as warfare and other esoterica. (A5-32r)

NEW DIRECTION #5 ($1.50 from 520 N. Ashley #1, Ann Arbor, MI 48103): A zine which exists mainly to promote music which the editor thinks is worth listening to, rather than slag off bad stuff. For reference points, try The Wipers, Springhouse, Wire, The Chameleons, and Mega City Four (the latter are interviewed in this issue). There's also an interview with **BIG TAKEOVER** writer Jack Rabid. (D-20r)

☐**NEW FUNK TIMES** #2-3 ($19/6 issues from Funkateers International, Ehrenstrasse 19, 5000 Koeln 1, WEST GERMAN): A newly revived fanzine for folks who like George Clinton, Parliament Funkadelic, and the various spinoffs and related musical endeavors. Lots of schedules, interviews with Clinton and cronies, and international classified ads make up the bulk of this. There's a European flavor and lots of photos too. (A4-12t)

NO EXIT: You Misunderstood ($1.50 from John Piché, 2622 Princeton Rd., Cleveland Heights, OH 44118): These folks use a subtitle instead of a number to identify their issues. Inside you get Face Value, Left Insane, and Plaid Retina. There's also a pile of reviews—and "pile" is probably the right word, since things are crammed in here in high-contrast chock full o' graphics printing. (S-18r)

THE NOISE #96 ($10/12 issues from Timothy Maxwell, 74 Jamaica St., JP, Boston, MA 02130): Continuing steady coverage of the Boston new music scene. A big chunk of #96 is reports on the annual WBCN Rumble, a playoff between a whole bunch of unsigned bands in town (Slaughter Shack won it this year). A Still Life article, comics and the inevitable gossip also show up. (S-24)

NOISY CONCEPT #3-4 ($3/7 issues from Mike Thain, 621 Bassett Ave., Cleveland, OH 44140): A small punk zine which features a few interviews, Mike's own reviews, Ace Backwords cartoons and, for some reason, George Bush's horoscope. Interviews in #4 with Dissent and Pretentious Wankers. With #4 Mike changes all the rules, goes to four pages of commentary and reduces the price to just an SASE, so go fo it. (D-16r/D-4r)

THE NOTE Vol. 5 #6 ($12.95/12 issues from 735.5 New Hampshire, Lawrence, KS 66044): Music for Kansas and beyond that doesn't mind covering major acts like the Grateful Dead in the same pages as folks like Babes in Toyland. They cover the club scene from Kansas City to Iowa, and in general are the sort of paper that someone might pick up and learn something from even if they only wanted to know about the Dead. (T-24t)

NOTE 4 NOTE #7 ($1 from S. Roeser, 2646 1/2 Griffith Park Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90039): A slice through new music, indie and major label, which eschews paragraphs to get more short bits in. No record gets more than a couple of lines, but that's enough to pick some hits. Also features interviews with Johnny Otis and Johnny Indovina. (S-8)

THE OBLIGATOR Vol. III #3 ($1 from PO Box 915, Muskegon, MI 49443-0915): A zine of Christian underground music which also spends a fair amount of space discussing topics like effective witnessing. Faith and music are pretty well inseparable here, with #3 containing longish pieces on Jeremy Morris and Torn Flesh as well as a batch of reviews. Real good list of contacts too. (S-12r)

THE OCEAN Vol. 1 #5 ($2 from 48 Briarwood Dr., Westwood, MA 02090): A fanzine home for people who still can't forget Led Zeppelin a decade after John Bonham's death. They feature tape-trading, current news of the group's alumni and reprinted past coverage; all typical fanzine features. Good list of soundboard tapes available here. (S-12)

ON SITE #9 ($1 from Bob Bannister, 230 W. 105th St. #5C, New York, NY 10025): A very no-frills and somewhat intellectual zine of music criticism. OK, so that doesn't sound like much, but the fact is that Bob is damned good at writing reviews of new (mostly indie) music without regurgitating presskits or the buzz from the other zine clones. If you seriously like to think about what you're listening to this one will get you kick-started. (D-32r)

OPTION #33 ($4 from 2345 Westwood Blvd. #2, Los Angeles, CA 90064): Well, with John Cale and Lou Reed on the cover, the **OPTION** folks will be accused of selling out once again. But inside you'll still find everyone from Chicken Chest to Lush, Polkacide to Renegade Soundwave, the Chills to the Mahoots, and of course lots of bands you've never heard of. Then there's the examination of the Plunderphonics music censorship case, the article on getting good drums in the recording studio, and more. Sure it's slick and big, but there are still plenty of good bits to browse in. (S-146t)

OUTER SHELL #55-56 (SASE from 9807 61st Ln. N, Pinellas Park, FL 34666-3131): A one-sheet music broadside that always manages to come up with something interesting. #55 is a special issue about censorship, with views from their regular columnists and small bits of news from the Southeast. #56 continues this theme, with a fine wrapup by the enigmatic Dr. Iguana. (S-2r)

□**OX** #5 (DM5 from Joachim Hiller, Goethestr. 28, 7920 Heidenheim, WEST GERMANY): Seems like every time I turn around there's another hardcore zine from Germany. This one includes a hard-vinyl 45 from Resistors, plus interviews with Nonoyesno, Underdog, Sylvia Juncosa, Drowning Roses and more. Lots of record reviews too. No English content. (A4-56r)

POWER PACKER #2 ($1 from 11216 Oakwood Dr., Dunkirk, MD 20754): A relatively new mostly-metal zine that's starting to look pretty good. Tons of reviews—they promise to review everything, though presumably genre limits this somewhat—and interviews with Premonition and Count Raven loom large in this issue. There's also a Zine Scene section, concentrating on metal and going into a few zines in depth. (S-24r)

□**PRETTY OBSCURE** #3 (SASE from 5360 Sideburn, Fairfax, VA 22032-3714): A broadside about jazz, hoping to at least introduce a few people to a little bit of the genre. This issue reports ona 4th of July free jazz fest in DC,talks about censorship, and reviews an album from Gil Scott-Heron. (L-2t)

□**PUNK AND DESTROY** #1 (75¢ from David Alvord, 1410 NW Lancashire Ct., Beaverton, OR 97006): Well, at least David is trying to do something positive for the scene, but this hand-scrawled zine has a lot of room to improve. He reports on local bands, reviews a few records, and editorializes against record labeling. Overall, though, there's not a lot of meat here. (S-10)

PUNK PALS June-July 1990 (2 stamps or 3 IRCs from Robert Brown, 2331 Blake St. #204, Berkeley, CA 94704): An international contact list for punks and interested others who want to write to one another. They don't offer a forwarding service, but listings are free; send your name, address, list of favorite bands and a general comment. (D-24t)

PURITY Vol. 1 #2 ($3 from Tim Renner, PO Box 831, Reistertown, MD 21136-0831): Music and horror...two great obsessions that go great together. **PURITY** concentrates on the darker side of rock, talking to bands like Exhume, Hellocast, Demise and Hideous Mangleus. There's also a strong graphic content, including comics from Michael Diana of **BOILED ANGEL** fame. Plenty of nastiness to fuel your nightmares. (S-36r)

RABID #6 ($1 *CASH* from Alex Kogan, 104 James St., Morristown, NJ 07960): A no-nonsense zine that can tackle anything from Loop to Jesus Lizard to Black Girls to Public Enemy and come out sounding reasonably intelligent and original, thanks largely to Alex and assistant editor Mike Appelstein. They chat with Bob Bert and Killdozer in this issue, and review a batch of new music, praising and dumping as its deserved. I like **RABID**, and just wish I knew why Alex keeps missing my parties. (S-10r)

R.A.D. #47 (50¢ from Juliet Jake, PO Box 867, Morro Bay, CA 93443): A zine of music and more importantly the wider punk scene, centered on the San Luis Obispo are but reaching out from there. #47 has more on Bob Z's postering hassles, Food Not Bombs, poetry, the Birth Defects, and lots more. (HL-28r)

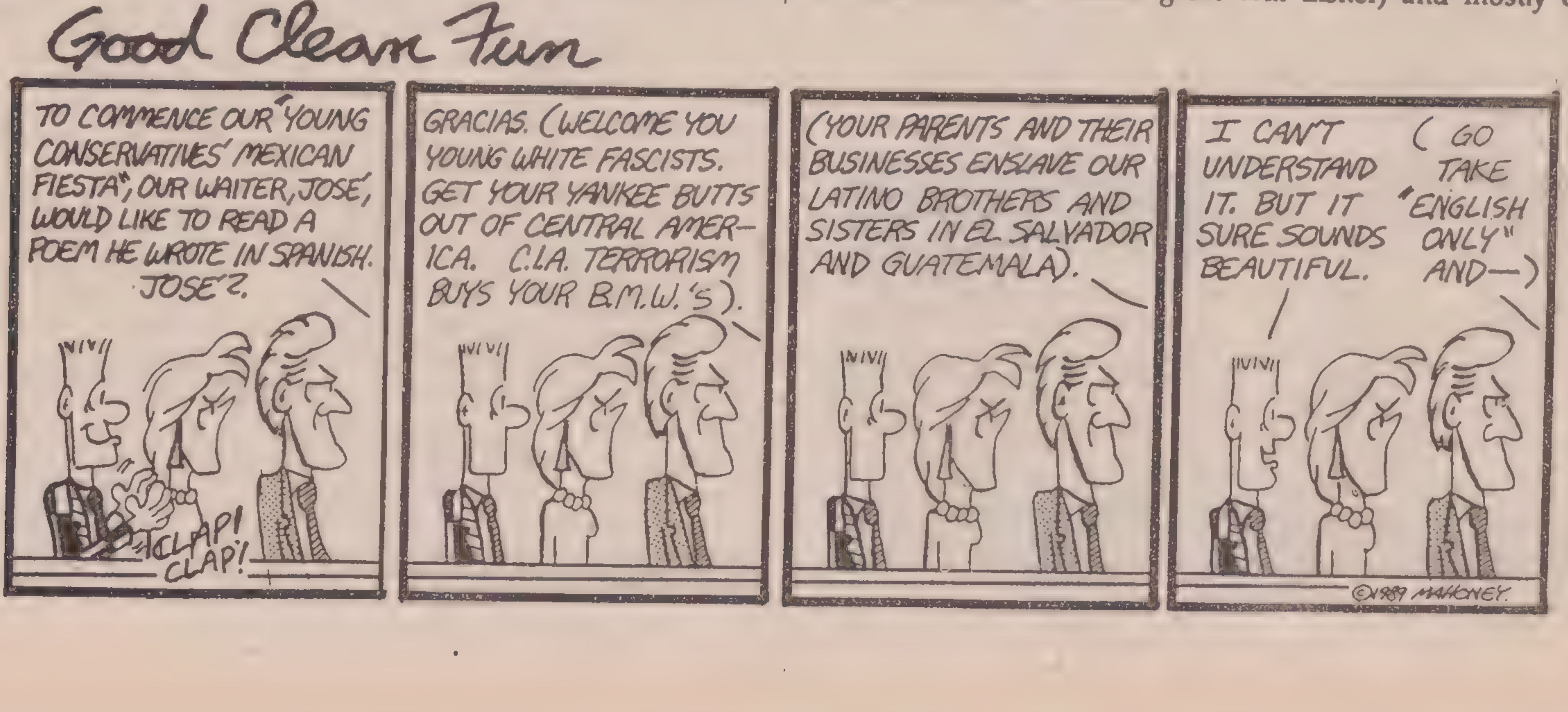
□**RADIO TIMES** May 1990 ($2 (?) from PO Box 509, Toowong, QLD 4066, AUSTRALIA): Except for the location, this is a fairly standard new radio zine, from a public station in Queensland. They talk about new studio facilities, bands like the Sugarcubes and Mudhoney, and what they need volunteers for. Little bits of Australian radio politics creep in to add a unique feel. (HL-20t)

RAIN #7 ($2 *CASH* from Vera, PO Box 2460, Chicago, IL 60690): There's a poetry page here but the focus is on new music, with short reviews and press notes from a couple of dozen bands. The interviews are with Sindrome and Trenchmouth; two interesting groups of characters. **RAIN** is also notable for having made the switch to a tabloid format without looking like every other tabloid; they're interested in fashion and I guess some design sense has sunk in. (T-12t)

REAL LIFE IN A BIG CITY #27 ($10/12 issues from Debi Dip, 6520 Selma #332, Los Angeles, CA 90028): A monthly music zine that leads off with an interview, then goes into reviews, weird humor, and comics. This time the lead-off is with Miracle Workers, who give pretty good interview. For comics, as always, it's the amusing Stubo, the cat with no paws. Pleasant and unpretentious. (S-24)

REAR WINDOW #2 ($2 from Cubist Productions, 3408 Juliet St., Pittsburgh, PA 15213): A music zine that does a good if sometimes pedestrian job of covering new stuff and the local scene. I like their use of thumbnail drawings of album covers in lieu of photos, and the live music reviews are especially cool this issue. The Bushmen also take time out for an interview here. (D-44t)

RECOIL #3 ($3 *CASH* from 3 Curzon Ave., Victoria Park, Manchester, M14 5PU, UK): Or for a £5 note they'll send you the first three issues. This is mostly music (the notable exception being an interview with comics great Will Eisner) and mostly quite well


Good Clean Fun
TO COMMENCE OUR "YOUNG CONSERVATIVES' MEXICAN FIESTA", OUR WAITER, JOSE', WOULD LIKE TO READ A POEM HE WROTE IN SPANISH. JOSE'?
CLAP! CLAP!
GRACIAS. (WELCOME YOU YOUNG WHITE FASCISTS. GET YOUR YANKEE BUTTS OUT OF CENTRAL AMERICA. C.I.A. TERRORISM BUYS YOUR B.M.W.'S).
(YOUR PARENTS AND THEIR BUSINESSES ENSLAVE OUR LATINO BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN EL SALVADOR AND GUATEMALA).
I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT. BUT IT SURE SOUNDS BEAUTIFUL.
(GO TAKE "ENGLISH ONLY" AND—)
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done. I particularly enjoyed the interview with indie record mogul Anthony Wilson; it was quite off the beaten path. Henry Rollins is reticent as usual, Fugazi and Fini Tribe open up. AC Temple's Polish visit also gets a few pages. (A4-28t)

THE ROC #2 ($6/yr from Woods, 320 S. Cadiz St., Jewett, OH 43986): The title is an acronym for "Rock Out Censorship", which is what these folks want to do. They're just getting organized now, but basically they call for an all-out attack on the PMRC and other music censors, with no compromise in the defense of loud music. There are also a few short bits on other freedom topics such as flagburning. (S-10)

ROCK & ROLL CONFIDENTIAL #79-80 ($24/yr from PO Box 15052, Long Beach, CA 90815): The actual music coverage of Dave Marsh & company doesn't thrill me all that much; while somewhat independent, it's firmly anchored in the mainstream. But this is an essential periodical anyhow, because it's in the forefront of the fight against music censorship and labeling. #79 names names of people not to trust in the industry and reports on rock music environmentalism. #80 is an all anti-censorship issue, leading off with the latest news on the 2 Live Crew bust. (S-8t)

ROLLIN UNDER #21 (Contact PO Box 17590, 54009 Thessaloniki, GREECE): This one is looking real fine, even if I can't read anything beyond the names of groups and the occasional lyric printed in English. They've gone to an oversized format (somewhat like ROLLING STONE) with a slick cover, lots of photos, classy typesetting. Scattered here we have folks like Lester Bangs, Johnny Thunders, Faith No More, Bevis Frond, and HP Lovecraft (the writer, not the group). (O-88t)

ROX Vol. 2 #12 ($2 (?) from PO Box 471, Reistertown, MD 21136-0471): Baltimore, DC and national rock acts, with some slant towards the more commercial stuff but still plenty of indie acts. Major interviews in this issue include Bruce Dickinson and Joe Satriani, both successful but hardly household words. Joan Jett, Fugazi, and The Black Crowes are a few of the others you'll encounter in this mix of interviews, live coverage and record reviews. (T-32t)

SCATTER BALANCE #2 (25¢ from PO Box 57549, Los Angeles, CA 90057): This one announces its coverage as "Underground Visual and Aural Arts", and interviews artist Kalynn Campbell as well as Dave from the Chemical People on the front here. Printed as an 11x17 poster on card stock, it features miniature type, a peck of reviews, a Fisher-Price camcorder, and other goodies. (O-2t)

SECOND FRONT #3 (Contact Ryszard Kapusta, Wojska Polskiego 5A, 36-100 Kolbuszowa, Woj Rzeszow, POLAND): An almost all-Polish zine of new music, with one column in English on the back. They feature mainly Polish bands, though there are scene reports from the Ukraine and (for some reason) the Philippines. A fair batch of photos makes it pretty obvious that the music here is mainly punk. (D-20r)

SEXY #4 (50¢ & a stamp from Kate Moeller, Rt. 2, Seymour, WI 54165): This one started up to interview local bands, but having run out of cooperative locals it has turned to big names passing through. Thus this issue has interviews with Fugazi and Big Drill Car. There are also reviews and silly straightedge jokes. (D-16r)

☐**SKARPETA #5-6** (Contact Dariusz Kaczor, 78-125 Ryman, uL. Kosllalinska 44, 14, POLAND): An all-Polish language hardcore punk zine. The articles appear to be mainly about Polish bands, although for all I know they branch out elsewhere—but I don't recognize any names. Dariusz is very interested in making hardcore contacts in other countries. (D-20r)

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☐**SKULL PRESS #1** ($1 from Rick E. Warden, PO Box 813, Arlington, TX 76004-0813): A new music zine with the emphasis on heavy metal. They don't much recognize a boundary between the underground and the major stars; news here covers Aerosmith and Motley Crue as well as Danzig and Soul Asylum. There are interviews with Guns n'Roses, Death Angel, and Sacred Reich, among others. Some of the contents look like reprints, but it's tough to be sure. They also feature a Dallas scene report and a punk and hardcore section. (S-32r)

SKULL SESSION #16 ($1 from 3187 Keynes Ct., Mississauga, ONT, L5N 2Z7, CANADA): It's interesting to read about Canadian politics for a change, and you can get that here (the editors will not be sorry to see Quebec go). They talk with Damn Nation, Abolition, and GG Allin (in the first prison interview I've seen with him). There are also rewritten comics and letters with gratuitously nasty answers. (S-38)

SLUG & LETTUCE #16 (SASE from Chris, PO Box 2067, Stuyvesant Sta., New York, NY 10009-8914): S&L is one of the too-few music zines put out by women, which deserves mention because certain bonehead fanzine reviewers have naively assumed that Chris was a male name. Anyhow, this one is centered on the NYC scene, with lots of cool photos between the short reviews. The split between music and zines is about 50-50, with a bit of political commentary thrown in. (S-4r)

☐**SMILE** (SASE from 396 7th St. #2, Jersey City, NJ 07302): Plagiarism comes to the music side of the zine world. Bulldozer, Reverb Motherfuckers and More Fiends mix in with a bunch of press clips from mainstream papers and chopped up mass images. The masthead encourages people to "replagiarize" this material. (L-1)

SOMETHING SMELLS #4 ($2 from Glenn McGarvey, 72 Cundles Rd. E., Barrie, ONT, L4M 2Z7, CANADA): Glenn is pretty much content to sit back and let bands speak for themselves, being uncomfortable with the role of "critic". So this is mainly interviews, with just a few record reviews and zine notices tucked in the back. #4 includes Fugazi, Stone Tellings, Hard-Ons, Industrial Suicide, 5 Foot Nothing, and more. (S-24)

SONGTALK Spring 1990 ($35/yr from National Academy of Songwriters, 6381 Hollywood Blvd. #780, Hollywood, CA 90028): The National Academy of Songwriters includes all the big names, and mostly this tabloid is features on them and what they're up to: folks like Paul McCartney, Paul Simon, Mark Knopfler and Charlie Daniels. This issue also includes 50th-anniversary congratulations for BMI and the most hysterical anti-DAT editorial I've seen anywhere. (T-50t)

SPACEBALL RICOCHET #8 ($1.50 from PO Box 71294, Milwaukee, WI 53211): A music zine which seems to concentrate on sort of noisy post-punk bands; interviews in this issue go to All and fIREHOSE, as well as Soul Asylum and Social Distortion. They review a batch of music, look at some local cool spots, and generally put together a classy publication here. (S-38t)

THE SPLATTER EFFECT Vol. II #21-22 ($12/12 issues from PO Box 2, Bound Brook, NJ 08805): A three-part fanzine. The first chunk, "Notable News", is essentially condensed press releases and gossip about a batch of bands—this feature has been pruned a bit and looks better in #22. "Around Live" covers schedules in NYC, New Jersey and Philly, and is pretty simple and straightforward. Finally, records are reviewed on a lottery basis, up to 50 an issue, with every genre from rap to metal to punk to rock represented. Sometimes the format seems a bit impersonal, but they do pack a lot of info in. (T-24t)

SPUN #55-56 ($1 from Doug Chapel Comics, 38 Reservoir St., Holden, MA 01520): A music zine with a comics feel, which is not surprising since most of Doug's work is graphical in nature. Here he talks about the Worcester-area music scene, reviews records, and goes on about groups. More outside writers are showing up lately, with #55 featuring a piece on Skinny Puppy and some tape rarity reviews. #56 has a New Zealand zine report from an editor out that a way.(D-20)

☐**THE STALKER #1** ($1 from PO Box 165, Kirkwood, NY 13795): A new music zine which stands out a bit because of its coverage of rap, more than I see in most other small zines. There is also some punk and other stuff here, as well as plenty of editorial matter. They discuss the environment, reprint an Ace Backwords strip on abortion, and generally seem to be trying to provoke a bit of thought. (D-16)

STRANJER #11 ($1.50 from Erik Szantai, 15 Van Saun Dr., Trenton, NJ 08628): Music coverage that sticks fairly close to the punk/hardcore end of things. Interviews in this issue include Killdozer, Scatterbrain, and No Means No. There's also a peck of record and zine reviews and some scattered commentary, plus urban live music reviews. (S-32t)

STRESSED OUT #11 ($1.50 (?) from Pauline Poisonous, 96 Hilldale Ave., Ormond Beach, FL 32176): Music and punk culture are the central linking points of this zine, but from the silkscreened grocery-bag cover on its gets around. The major interview is with folks trying to run an underground bar; there's reviews of music and zines too. But there's also poetry, comics, interesting letters, and lots of art. (HL-36r)

□**STUBBLE #1** ($2 from PO Box 732, Attleboro, MA 02703): A new music zine which also features a few comics. The editor seems to be into scatalogical humor and music, with big plugs for some of the bands from the Black & Blue label and a favorable review of an Algae Afterbirth/Cedar Street Sluts show in this issue. (S-16)

SYSTEM OPPOSED #5 ($1 from Camille, PO Box 1857, Tustin, CA 92680): A mix of punk music and social activism. There are reports on Food Not Bombs and the Nevada Test Site actions here. They also interview Holocaust and Garblecrat, review some stuff, and give away a free condom. Poetry and news bits show up too. (S-20)

TEEN MEAT #5 ($2 from PO Box 161745, Sacramento, CA 95816): Pop and silly music and lots of cheesecake poses of folks in and out of bands, with some of the guys wearing little more than a sock or a guitar. They've got the Earwigs, Wagnerian Poses and Enrique in this issue, along with a lot of silliness and a whole page of recipes for cooking hot dogs. (S-24r)

TEXAS BEAT Vol. 1 #6-8 ($20/12 issues from PO Box 4429, Austin, TX 78765): A winning formula that starts with city-by-city coverage of the Texas music scene and goes on from there. The Fat man continues to explain the ins and outs of recording studios, heavy metal gets a page and some political action, and #6 even features a fashion centerfold for the well-dressed club hopper. #7 runs from world beat to a folk festival. (S-32t)

THIS STRANGE EFFECT #3 (SASE from PO Box 34, Portland, OR 97207): A short & sweet zine for Kinks lovers. It's mainly essays about what there is to like about the band, as well as what they did wrong in their career. Pretty minor, unless you're a die-hard Kinks fan. (D-8)

THIS ZINE SUCKS #19 ($1 from PO Box 7952, West Trenton, NJ 08628): Bush Babies, Jawbreaker, Dead Nurse and Intensity are the interviews this time around...not exactly household words but some of them may get there eventually. Plenty of action on the reviewing front, with a punk focus but a willingness to listen to such things as spoken word and reggae. 4 years old with this issue and still going strong. (S-32r)

□**TIM #1** ($2 from Mr. Bucks, PO Box 1432, Denton, TX 76202): A new fanzine devoted entirely to the life and works of Tiny Tim. Yes, he's still around (there's even a new cassette set announced here). The zine is a mix of Tim appreciation, nostalgia, and interviews with folks who have worked with the great man recently. (S-7t)

TOO MUCH NOISE #28-29 (60 FIM/4 issues *CASH/IMO* from Tammelanpuistokatu 1 A 3, SF-33500 Tampere, FINLAND): A rockabilly and classic rock zine in Finnish seems exceedingly bizarre to me, but that's just what this is. In these two issues you can dine Dale Hawkins, Bobby Lee, Marc Bristol, and Bobby Lee Trammell. They're pretty serious about all this, with discographies and classy photos. (S-32t)

TOO MUCH PRESSURE #2 ($1 from Eric, 1638 'E' St. #302, Hayward, CA 94541): A small straightedge zine that combines reviews of bands with extensive notes on ripoff artists operating through the mail. Eric has apparently had a bunch of unfortunate experiences, and he guarantees to track down any complaints about his own advertisers. No interviews, but there's a couple of good photos. (D-18)

TRUST #23 ($6 air/$4 surface [NO CHECKS] from Dolf Hermannstadter jun., Salzmanstrasse 53, 8900 Augsburg, WEST GERMANY): A hardcore zine from Germany with a long track record and lots of heavy coverage. They're not exclusively music—this issue has a section on serial killers, focused on Zodiac—but that's the prime focus. #23 has D.I., Die Trottel, and a hard-vinyl split 7" featuring Haywire and NoNoYesNo. (A4-64r)

TV EYE June 1990 (IRCs from Liivierator Vagelis, Hajopoulou 4-1, 54629 Salonica, GREECE): A zine of new music reviews with a hard high-contrast look to it. The contents are entirely in Greek, but there are features in this issue on Test Dept, Screaming Trees, and Midnight Men. (T-4t)

□**UK RESIST #3** ($12 surface or $18 air/6 issues from PO Box 244A, Surbiton, Surrey, KT5 9LU, UK): A music zine with lots of columns and a strong political agenda; it's a bit reminiscent of MRR in that respect, though smaller and not as aggressively punk looking. They talk to Oi Polloi, Sham 69 and Prophecy of Doom in this issue. Other topics include animal rights, abortion, free speech and Eastern Europe. Lots of reviews in the back along with a calendar of gigs and events. (A4-32t)

UNBROKEN CHAIN Vol. 5 #3 ($2 from PO Box 8726, Richmond, VA 23226): A newsletter for fans of the Grateful Dead. They print classified ads, song lists from various tour stops, and all the news they can find from or about members of the band. Reprinted mainstream media coverage and letters also take up a chunk of the zine. Good community feeling. (S-16r)

THE UNDERGROUND #6 ($2/yr from Scott Russell, PO Box 111, Wilmore, KY 40390-0111): This one is centered in the Christian contemporary music scene, but the coverage isn't limited narrowly to music. This issue has a look at one particular Christian music festival and an essay on what the first amendment really means for religion in America. (L-2r)

□**UPSTATE #1** ($1.50 from Dave, 6 Meadow St. #5, Clinton, NY 13323): A pretty fine first issue, especially considering that Dave is new to the area and hasn't found the cool spots to hang out yet. He's got interviews with Jawbreaker. Samiam and the Mr. T Experience. There's also zine reviews (though he could use more to read), an offer to trade tpaes, and some filler art. A solid beginning. (D-40)

VICTORY REVIEW Vol. 15 #7 ($15/yr from PO Box 7515, Bonney Lake, WA 98390): A roundup of folk, women's, jazz, bluegrass, and similar ethnic and acoustic music genres in the Northwest. This issue features vocal stylist Kendra Shank, followed by plenty of short reviews. They also maintain an extensive calendar of performances around town and upcoming festivals. (S-24t)

THE VILLAGE NOIZE #9 ($3 from Eric Wielander, 48-54 213rd St., Bayside, NY 11364): A music zine that bops around a pretty wide range, from Prong to the Beastie Boys. Crispin Glover and the Psychedelic Furs are also in this issue, along with movies and television and other neat stuff. VN keeps improving, and is well on its way to being a major force on the non-syncophantic side of the music world. (S-41t)

□**VISIONARY MUSIC NEWS & VIEWS** Vol. 1 #1 ($1 (?) from PO Box 11412, St. Petersburg, FL 33733-1412): An occasional publication of music and the New Age put out by the people behind Visionary Music, an indie tape label. They talk about putting together "Energy Enhancement Environments", look into the future, and talk about their own forthcoming releases. (S-6t)

VOODOO CHILD #20 ($12/yr from PO Box 374, Des Plaines, IL 60016): A zine devoted to the music and legacy of Jimi Hendrix. There seems to be more such music every day, and this issue has an article attempting to sort out the recent spate of limited edition bootleg pressings. There's also news of Jimi's Woodstock guitar auctioned off for $330,000, and various bits and pieces on which albums are available where. (S-6t)

VULGAR TONGUE #5 ($1 from Thomas Bruce, PO Box 272, Chalfont, PA 18914): Formerly **GROUND-O**, this one features no-nonsense editorial opinions and some movie reviews (as well as an appreciation of *Satan's Cheerleaders*) along with music coverage. There's an interview with Toadstool and one with Grisly Fiction, plus a good chunk of reviews of both zines and records. Pretty blunt and refreshing. (S-20r)

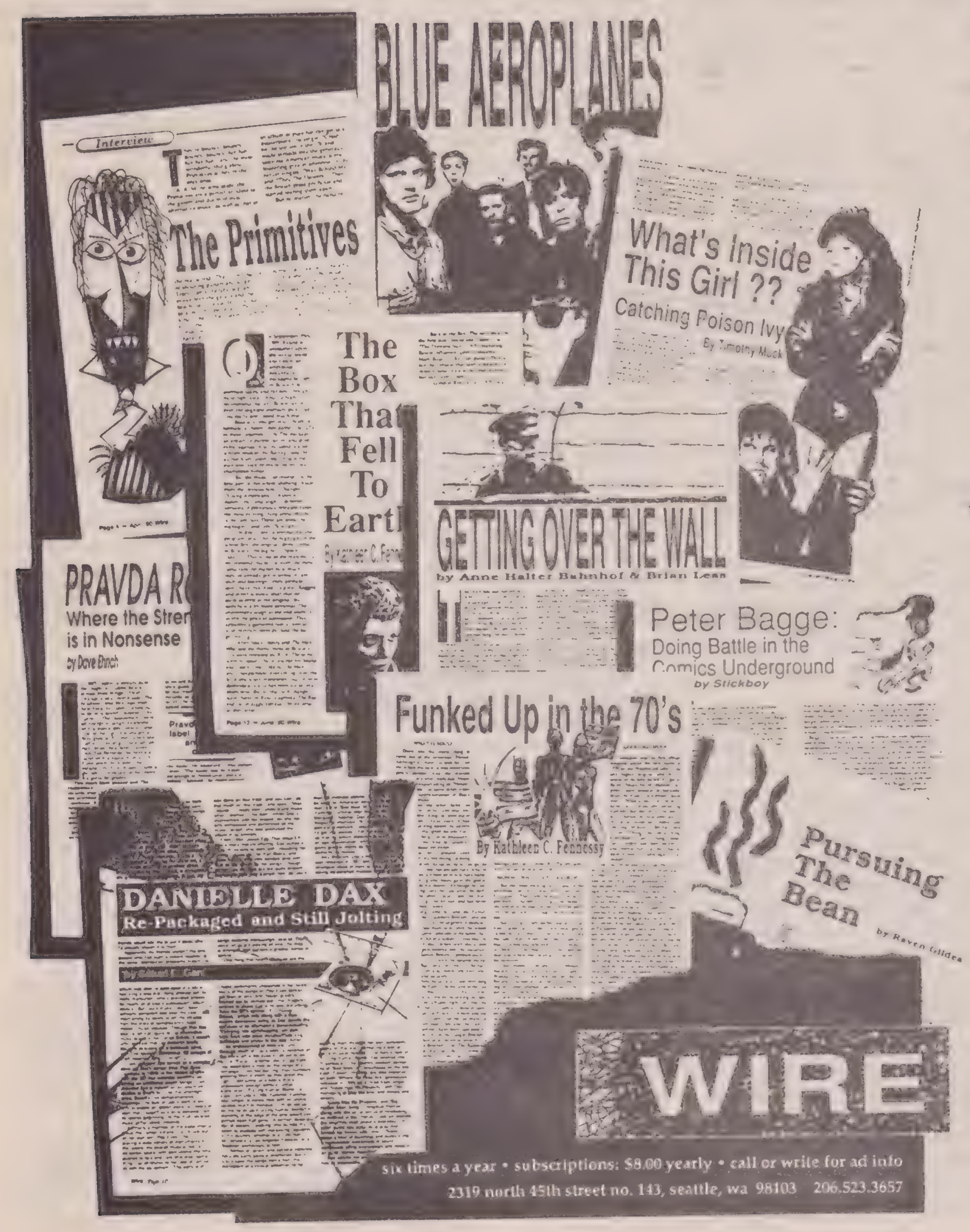
WASTE PAPER #27 ($1 (?) from 638 E. 13th Ave., Denver, CO 80203): All manner of new noise here: a lead article on the Cramps, Thin White Rope, Harry Crews, Nick Cave, A;Grumh, and plenty more familiar names come together here. The writers appreciate good noise and confrontation, and the zine section picks out a few goodies such as lesser-known appearances of Lydia Lunch. Closes with a few pages of band photos. (S-48)

□WATCHING SISTER VOMIT Vol. 1 #2 ($1 [checks to "cash"] from PO Box 236, Nesconset, NY 11767): A zine of music and other stuff. Besides a few reviews and an interview with God's Last Name, this issue has the start of a well-drawn eerie comic and an editorial on German politics. (D-12r)

□WHATEVER #1 ($3 from Judd Publications, 10202 Tamarack Dr., Vienna, VA 22182): A zine that's about half music, half other stuff—mostly slightly deranged short stories. The music tends to be on the metallic side, with Wrathchild America, Annihilator, and Devastation among the opening cast. There's also a few opinion columns, movie reviews and strange photos. Off to a good start. (S-24r)

WHITE NOISE #22 ($3/6 issues from PO Box 1564, Point Roberts, WA 98281-1564): A Christian music zine that goes for the crammed-in layout of a lot of punk zines. There are longish interviews here with the Lead and Marc Plainguet, as well as a good list of zines. Plenty of short bits are crammed in the interstices and I got a handful of stickers with my copy. (S-12r)

WIRE Vol. 9 #3 ($8/6 issues from 2319 N. 45th #143, Seattle, WA 98103): From radio station KCMU comes this roundup of new music and odd tales. They seem to be expanding their format lately, and there's this wild true (?) story about driving too long with too little espresso in this issue. There are also talks with Blue Aeroplanes and a chatty Poison Ivy. And of course they review the latest cool music for discriminating listeners. (S-32t)


Interview
The Primitives
BLUE AEROPLANES
What's Inside This Girl ??
Catching Poison Ivy
The Box That Fell To Eart
GETTING OVER THE WALL
PRAVDA R
Where the Stre
is in Nonsense
Peter Bagge:
Doing Battle in the Comics Underground
by Stickboy
Funked Up in the 70's
By Kathleen C. Fennessy
Pursuing The Bean
DANIELLE DAX
Re-Packaged and Still Jolting
WIRE
six times a year • subscriptions: $8.00 yearly • call or write for ad info
2319 north 45th street no. 143, seattle, wa 98103 206.523.3657

□WISCH-MAN #3 (2 DM from Rainer Sprehe, Kirchplatz 15, 4834 Harsewinkel, WEST GERMANY): An all-German hardcore zine that's mainly interviews. This issue has Spermbirds, UK Subs, and Mind Over Four, among other bands. There's also a couple of punk crossword puzzles, sure to be challenging (especially to those of us who don't speak the language). (A5-52r)

X ($2 from Phil, 7 Woodside, Madeley, Nr. Crewe, Cheshire, CW39HA, ENGLAND): If there's a number on this I can;t find it, but given the hodgepodge layout (some pages I can't even tell which group is being interviewed) that's not surprising. Anyhow, there's a lot of music crammed in here, from Godflesh to Bevis Frond to Sleeping Dogs Wake. The slant seems to be towards psychedelic and noisy groups, with plenty of record reviews tucked into the corners. (D-28r)

YOUR FLESH #19 ($3.50 from Peter Davis, PO Box 25146, Minneapolis, MN 55458-6146): A fat alternative music zine with a slick cover and lots of attention to graphics. They get into some weird trips in this issue, with interviews with Richard Kern, Andrea Juno and Vale of RE/SEARCH, the Lunachicks and Urge Overkill. There's a Killdozer tour diary and a hefty helping of reviews too. (S-106t)

□YOUR WORST FEARS CONFIRMED ($3 from Gerald Houghton, 49 Addington Road, Irthlingborough, Northants NN9 5ST, UK): A mix of music and dangerous written works, along with short bits on the likes of the Red Army Faction. Happy Flowers, Skullfuck, Andy Warhol (a book review, not an interview, of course) and RE/SEARCH define some of the edges of the field they're interested in. (D-40r)

WHY PUBLISH? WHY DO ANYTHING?

A *RELATIVELY* CONCISE EXERCISE IN SOMETHING CALLED 'MAXIMUMROCK'N'ROLL PRESENTS'

As you're about to discover if you read on here, Maximum Rocknroll is both an organization and an outlook that has spread itself out in many different areas of communication within the San Francisco Bay Area underground music scene. I guess the first question we might get asked by many of Factsheet Five's readers is: are we a monopolistic, disciplinarian and money-grubbing cancer?

MAXIMUMROCKNROLL

Ironically, MRR is sometimes accused of being capitalist and sometimes accused of being communist. I think we are neither, nor are we anarchist. Let me explain.

I think reality is based on what most people agree it should be. We live in a world where the majority allow a small elite to define and dictate the boundaries of their thinking...their reality. I don't feel comfortable knowing that, and, as the initiator of MRR, have strived to find others who share a different concept on what reality should be. If enough people believe that dream to be true, then it will become reality. I'm not naive enough (anymore) to believe that I'll see that in my lifetime, but that doesn't stop me from trying to reach out and connect with others who share a similar value system and a willingness to apply hard work and common sense to further remove themselves from the decaying hypocrisy of modern urban capitalism—and to further extend our reality.

In 1977, I lucked into landing a weekly radio show on Pacifica's Berkeley, California station, KPFA. At first alone, and then later with an ever-changing group of people, that show (which continues today) became the emotional base for MRR. In 1981, Ruth Schwartz, Jeff Bale and I began syndicating the show to non-commercial stations around the world.

In '82, we branched out with a regional compilation double LP, "Not So Quiet On The Western Front," and in the process created a magazine insert. We have since put out four releases—"Welcome to 1984," the first international hardcore comp; Dezerter, a Polish band actively engaged in anti-government activties; "Turn It Around," a double EP dedicated to the early spirit of the Gilman Street Project; and "They Don't Get Paid, They Don't get Laid, But Boy Do They Work Hard," a tribute to the Do-It-Yourself ethic, both in bands and fanzine.

Through doing the insert in that first vinyl, we found that the printed word and graphics was yet another way of reaching out beyond the music and airwaves. That led to the formation of our monthly zine. We are now up to issue #86, churning out 128 crammed pages each time full of teeny print that covers not only the music of the international independent punk/hardcore scene, but also the political issues which form the social basis for that community. The zine not only reports on that scene, but takes an activist role in fomenting debate and action within said community. It's an interesting combination of grassroots support and regeneration, and hi-tech computer production—forcing all of us to compliment our political activities with technological discovery. In other words, we have (luckily) been forced to learn new skills and meet the modern age while still maintaining our grassroots commitment.

How that grassroots aspects translates into magazine production may be of some interest to you. Any given issue of the magazine is about 85% non in-house, meaning we largely depend on our readers for its contents. Every issue has about 8 pages of 'letters-to-the-editor' which cover both responses to previous letters or columns, and run the gamut from highly thought out to personal, emotion outreach. From a survey we conducted, we found our readers range from 12 to 50, with the average age being about 22 years old, and this variety of age is well displayed in this section.

We also have about 10 pages of columns every issue, and this section seems to generate the most response. The writers are all activists within the punk/hardcore scene, and their range of political beliefs and life experience is most stimulating.

Most of our interviews are with bands, though we do cover activists in other areas of this counter-culture as well. And again, most of these are generated in areas far from San Francisco. The same goes for articles, scene reports covering the goings-on (musically and politically) in other cities and countries (which ranges from Japan to Poland to Thailand to Argentina), and our 'news' section.

The one area we do cover in house are the review sections, and our collection of local contributors totals about 15. They write up every fanzine, record, cassette and video we receive that falls within our general area of coverage. There are usually 3 pages (in small print) of zine reviews, 9 of record and tape reviews, and 3 of book, video and movie reviews.

We also have a 'person-on-the-street' question section, a 'book your own tour' info section, a graphics section, classified ads, and a zillion display ads that are super inexpensive and not available to major labels. One last bit of technical information, you can get a sample copy for $2.50 or a 6 issue subscription for $15 to see for yourself what we're about. Just write in to MRR, PO Box 288, Berkeley, CA 94701.

Now, back to our growth. In '85 we (this "we" varies from 20-30 people at any given time, many of whom are veterans from the early 80s) floated out the dream of a community-run club (Gilman Street Project), got a consensus on what it should be, and put up the money to make it happen. In 1988, we (along with Ruth and Mordam Records) put up the money and did the initial organizational footwork for a not-for-profit record and zine mailorder, Blacklist. And this year we are financing the start up of a record store/community center, Epicenter Zone.

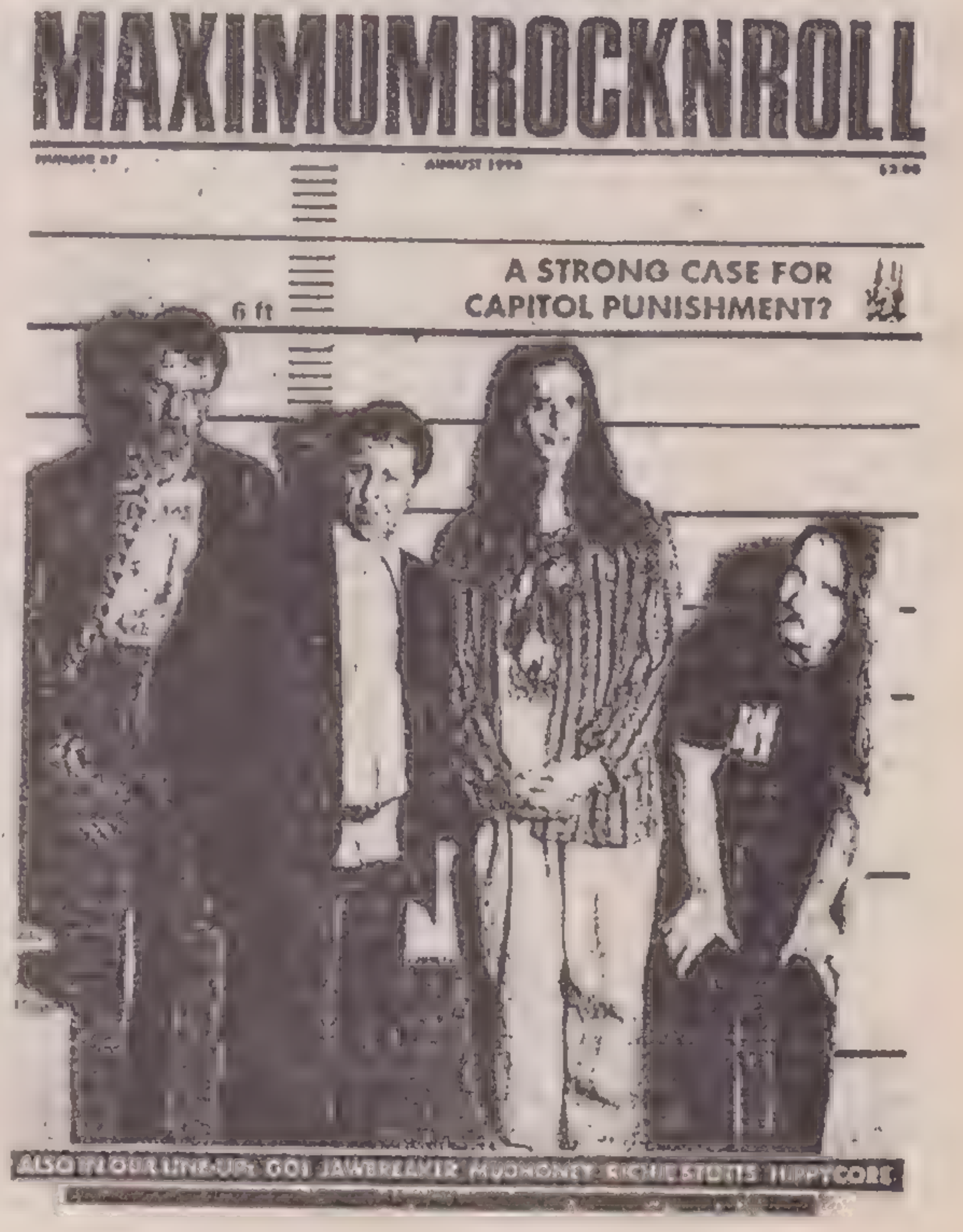
What all of these projects have in common is: 1) They are utilizing different forms of media to reach the public with an "alternative" message, and 2) They are all not-for-profit. No one who works on any of these projects draws a salary. We all hold down "regular" jobs to make ends meet. But the profits from the magazine go to both pay for improving our working conditions and in-house technology, and to help start other related enterprises which provide an ever-increasing way for young people to learn new skills, get confidence through practical experience, and to (most importantly) see their ideals get translated into real life victories.

I think the Bay Area may be unique in having such a network exist within its punk scene. Considering that the radio show is 13 years old, the zine 8, Gilman 3, Blacklist 2, it's quite inspiring and goes a long way towards disproving the old axiom that only profit-making and self-interest can hold people's commitments for long.

While MRR may have dreamt up all these different vehicles, they are all run and largely staffed by separate groups of people. Gilman, Blacklist and Epicenter are now all financially independent. We all cooperate with each other because of our common roots in a generally shared vision of "reality". If we can continue to recirculate our capital and profits back into "the scene", as we have done thus far, we can spawn even more ventures. Since they are all grassroots by nature and committed to the preservation and growth of a community that is outside both governmental and corporate control, the workings of all these projects is in reality what makes them radical. What I mean to say is that much more than the content of any songs lyrics on our records, more than any political discourse in our zine, more than the excitement of any gig presented or any volume of records sold, the real importance of what we do is that we do do

SPECIAL REPORT
THIS COULD HAPPEN TO YOUR CITY!
The Northern California UNDERGROUND Uprising of '82
MAXIMUMROCKNROLL
2 PUNKS
CITY
Killed
Injured

FROM HERE
TO ETERNITY?

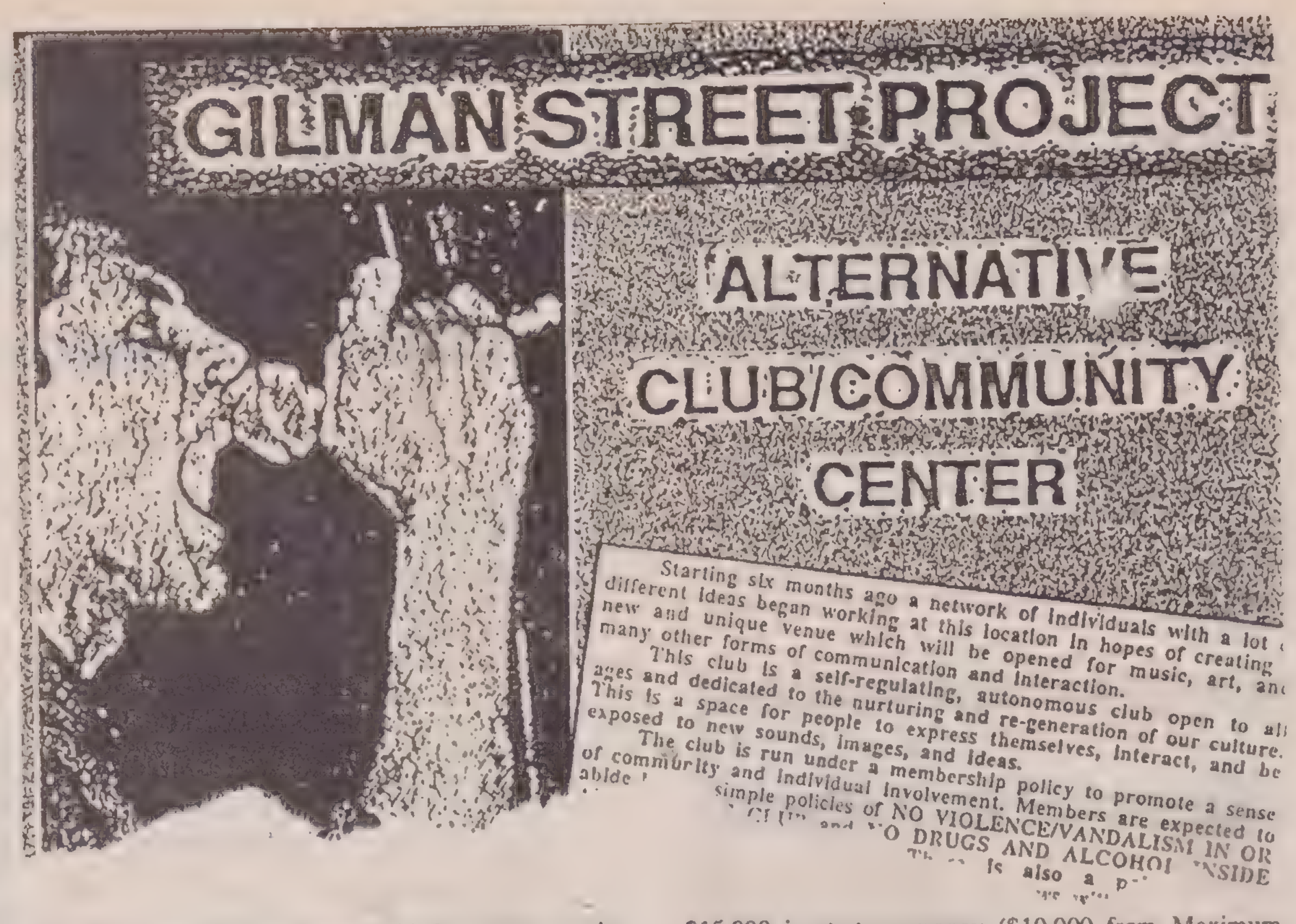

MAXIMUMROCKNROLL
6 ft
A STRONG CASE FOR CAPITOL PUNISHMENT?
ALSO IN OUR LINE-UP: GOI JAWBREAKER MUDHONEY RICHIE STOTTS HIPPYCORE

it, that we have applied our political ideas to the way we live, to the way we communicate, to the way we work—and despite setbacks from time to time, we are still dreaming and trying to find others to keep creating more dreams that can solidify into our reality.

Despite the fact that Lance might be considered a post-structuralist ex-situationist, or Martin a vegan anarchist, or Tim a cigarette smoking communist, or Brian a stolid pragmatist, or Mykel a short libertarian, etc., etc., we do share some fundamental dreams and have found enough in common to work together over a long period of time. Fuck all the sectarian bullshit, fuck the schisms and the "we're right and they're wrong politicos. We will keep building on common sense, hard work, and a sense of community that is quite rare. All the people who work on all these projects get far too little credit and far too much abuse, but for me they are what makes life worthwhile—an inspiring crew who, time after time, fight off not only the disappointments and wear and tear, but also their own cynicism to struggle on. They demand that sense of community, and, consciously or not, are trying to bring into focus their definition of what reality is.

Enough from me, now let's hear from some of them on what they do and why they do it!

The Gilman Street Project


GILMAN STREET PROJECT
ALTERNATIVE
CLUB/COMMUNITY
CENTER

Starting six months ago a network of individuals with a lot
different ideas began working at this location in hopes of creating
new and unique venue which will be opened for music, art, an
many other forms of communication and interaction.
This club is a self-regulating, autonomous club open to al
ages and dedicated to the nurturing and re-generation of our culture.
This is a space for people to express themselves, interact, and be
exposed to new sounds, images, and ideas.
The club is run under a membership policy to promote a sense
of community and individual involvement. Members are expected to
abide [illegible] simple policies of NO VIOLENCE/VANDALISM IN OR
[illegible] and NO DRUGS AND ALCOHOL INSIDE
[illegible] is also a [illegible]

The Gilman Street Project alternative music club began as a long-standing dream by a group of punk community activists to create a community center featuring live alternative music with people doing artwork, making flyers, etc. This group, which included people from Maximum RocknRoll, Bravear fanzine and other East Bayers began looking in Berkeley and found a suitable warehouse away from any homes, which would help avoid neighborhood complaints. They wanted to avoid police harassment and have a permanent club, so they achieved full legal status by suffering through a long series of hearings before the city council, and all necessary permits were obtained. Then the real suffering began with months of construction work by mostly punk scene volunteers with no construction skills and a shortage of tools. While the stage and legally required bathrooms were being built, several committees of volunteers were created for booking bands, security, etc. After MRR magazine had spent several thousand dollars, the club finally opened on New Year's Eve, 1986.

At volunteer meetings club members voted to put on cheap shows (the door price to be a dollar per amount of bands) with a $2 membership fee and with bands receiving fair pay. Bands' guest lists would be kept short and bands would receive a percentage of the door rather than a guarantee. They wanted to have diverse, unpredictable shows in a space where people came for the community environment rather than just to see the bands (like at other clubs). So initially punk and non-punk bands were mixed together on shows with the bands names unadvertised, but this approach was eventually abandoned due to low attendance. Saturdays and Sundays were reserved for punk bands and Fridays for other alternative music.

Initially there was a very positive social environment of friends who operated the club creating humorous alternative dances to slamming, dog-piling on the stage, and engaging in nerdcore silliness. The club also provided a supportive environment for new local bands to arise, like Operation Ivy, Crimpshrine, the Yeastie Girlz and Isocracy. The club also put on shows with touring bands like Fugazi, NoMeansNo, Soulside, Bad Religion and the Angry Samoans.

One of the early hopes was that bands would work their own shows, which rarely happened. Eventually more and more of the work was done by a dwindling number of volunteers, resulting in the disintegration of the volunteer committees. For instance, the booking committee allowed any member to help vote on what bands to book to avoid accusations of bias and elitism, but after its demise booking was done at the MRR house.

Despite complaints the club was run by "straight edge dictators with too many rules," there really have been few rules: 1) no violence, 2) no stage diving (required by the insurance company because of a few lawsuits), and most controversial 3) no drugs or alcohol in or around the club. This was to avoid violence at shows. Drinking around the club has provided constant security problems, as well as littering and graffiti, occasionally making neighbors want to have the club closed down.

Although there were some exciting shows, most were predictable, which caused decreased attendance. Many people also didn't attend because they disliked the young audience or felt that they couldn't have fun without getting drunk. So to be able to pay the rent, the club was forced to put on three shows per week, resulting in even more worker burn out. Workers complained that they got little out of shows while slaving for a consumerist audience and bands who received all the benefits. The amount of violence at shows had also greatly increased mostly due to skinheads. With all these problems, the original crew voted to close the club in late 1988.

However, a small group of masochistic martyrs felt that the club was worth continuing and reopened Gilman several weeks later. Although the new management is not affiliated with MRR, the new Gilman operates quite similarly to the old club. Without MRR income to fall back on, the door price has increased and bands with a larger audience draw are booked more often. Because of the small volunteer work force, originally security was done by a rent-a-cop, which was a failure because of audience resentment of authority figures. Eventually a small security force was hired from within the punk scene; but by this time violence had greatly increased at the club, although many people preferred the new club because of lax enforcement of the no-alcohol policy. Despite a burnt-out work force, the new Gilman continues the tradition of being an all-ages, volunteer-run punk club providing an affordable venue for new and touring bands. The club also provides a really inexpensive way for bands to record demos. 924 Gilman St/ 415-525-9926 or 524-8180

— Vague and Grouplike, for Gilman Street

BLACKLIST MAILORDER

Blacklist mailorder opened its doors to the retail mailorder trade May 15, 1988. About five months earlier, an idea spawned among individuals concerned with the rapidly deteriorating distribution available to small, truly independent labels and artists. We wanted to create a kick-ass, comprehensive, honest, efficient way for people to get ahold of the music and press that they could no longer find in stores. So after five months of meeting, organizing, building, ordering and advertising, and with the help of $15,000 in start-up money ($10,000 from Maximum RocknRoll fanzine and $5,000 from Mordam Records), Blacklist became a reality.

The skills and knowledge of people who were experienced with the music biz and past mail order projects proved invaluable to us. They already had a handle on what to do, and, perhaps more importantly, what not to do, to make this project successful. This insight, combined with lots of enthusiasm from new, fresh faces, makes Blacklist run amazingly smoothly considering its makeup. Blacklist is an entirely volunteer organization. We mark up our prices for retail at 30% above wholesale for domestic records and tapes, and 20% above wholesale for imported records and tapes and all printed material, import and domestic. This mark-up covers our rent, phone, supplies, etc. Honesty is a priority here and all efforts are made to rectify mistakes/problems. Blacklist receives 20-50 pieces of mail a day and screw-ups are bound to happen, but, considering the many different people who have worked here at various times, there have been very few problems relatively speaking. Our main work force runs 10 to 20 people on a fairly consistent basis, with another 10 or so on an infrequent basis. Some diehards from the very beginnings of this endeavor are still around, still going strong.

Blacklist carries about 1,400 different record, cassette, video, CD and zine/book titles. Our main focus is on vinyl and we are determined to support this inexpensive means of expression to the bitter end. Since the majority of the people who work here are mainly into the punk/HC scene, that is the genre that makes up the bulk of our stock. We also carry a small amount of ska, garage pop, neo-'60s psych and industrial stuff. Our primary goal is to try and find an outlet for bands and labels who are shut out from, or don't want to deal with, major "independent" distributors. Our terms are as follows: 60-day consignment U.S., 90-day consignment overseas. Consignment allows us to take chances on things we might not consider if we dealt C.O.D., due to our financial situation. There have been very few instances of disgruntled vendors, whom we try to put right as soon as we learn of the problem.

It has been a very gratifying two years so far. We're making an impact globally, not just locally. Most every order we receive comes with some kind of encouragement and thatnks. We're doing our best to be as efficient as possible and it's a lot easier when so much support is offered. We hope to be around for years to come.

Contact information: Our catalog is $1 in the U.S. and Canada, and $2 everywhere else. If you are in a band, run a label, do a zine, etc., and wish to be included, please send a sample along with wholesale price, etc. Our new address is Blacklist Mailorder / 475 Valencia St. / San Francisco, CA 94103. Our new phone number is 415/255-0388. All mail sent to our old address is still ok, as our good friends at Mordam and A.T. will hold the mail for us, but please use the new address from now on, ok? Thanks!

MAXIMUM ROCKNROLL RADIO

We Want The Airwaves, Baby

Maximum RocknRoll Radio first went on the air in 1977 on non-commercial radio station KPFA (90.7 FM) in Northern and Central California. Hosted by Tim Yohannan, Ray Farrell and Al Ennis, it originally was slotted late Sunday night, but due to a public demonstration outside the station by over 150 punks, support galvanized and the show got moved to prime time, where it remains to this day. In 1980, Jeff Bale joined the group, along with Jello Biafra, and then Ruth Schwartz (now of Mordam Records) joined and organized a syndication process.

It has evolved into an internationally syndicated 1-hour showcase of the up to the minute/latest released punk records in the world. The show's DJs are almost invisible, preferring to concentrate on the music, not personalities. The hardest part of the show is screening the records for "obscenities" due to pressure from the FCC, as MRR does not want to jeopardize the licences of stations airing the show.

Because of the large scope of MRR, records come from all over the world with the radio show ending up with about 60% in English, the rest in other languages. It is anti-sexist, anti-racist and anti-fascist.

The local editions run two hours a week, with both the show and the host station financed by public donations. The international edition is a one hour cassette and is sold for cost to the subscribing stations.

As with the rest of MRR, all work is volunteer and as people fade out, we've been very fortunate that new people have stepped in to help out. Currently, the show is hosted by five different DJs (Alisa Schulmann, Jon Von, Kenny Chaos, Mike Gill, and Last Will), and is syndicated by Radley and Paula Hirsch.

PRESSURE DROP PRESS

Fueled by anger and dedication, Pressure Drop Press is trying to confront stagnation in mainstream and alternative cultures with a printed punch to the face. Pressure Drop Press publishes books which are oppositional in their perspective and are rooted in punk idealism. Pressure Drop is contemporizing the strongest values of the punk community by focusing on printed matter that is loud, assaulting (politically and/or socially) and critical. Pressure Drop Press is open to all types of material and does not restrict itself to a certain type of format, size or packaging. By creating books that are bold in graphic appearance and dissident in content, Pressure Drop is challenging the music-dominated community that it's based in, as well as the literary industry.

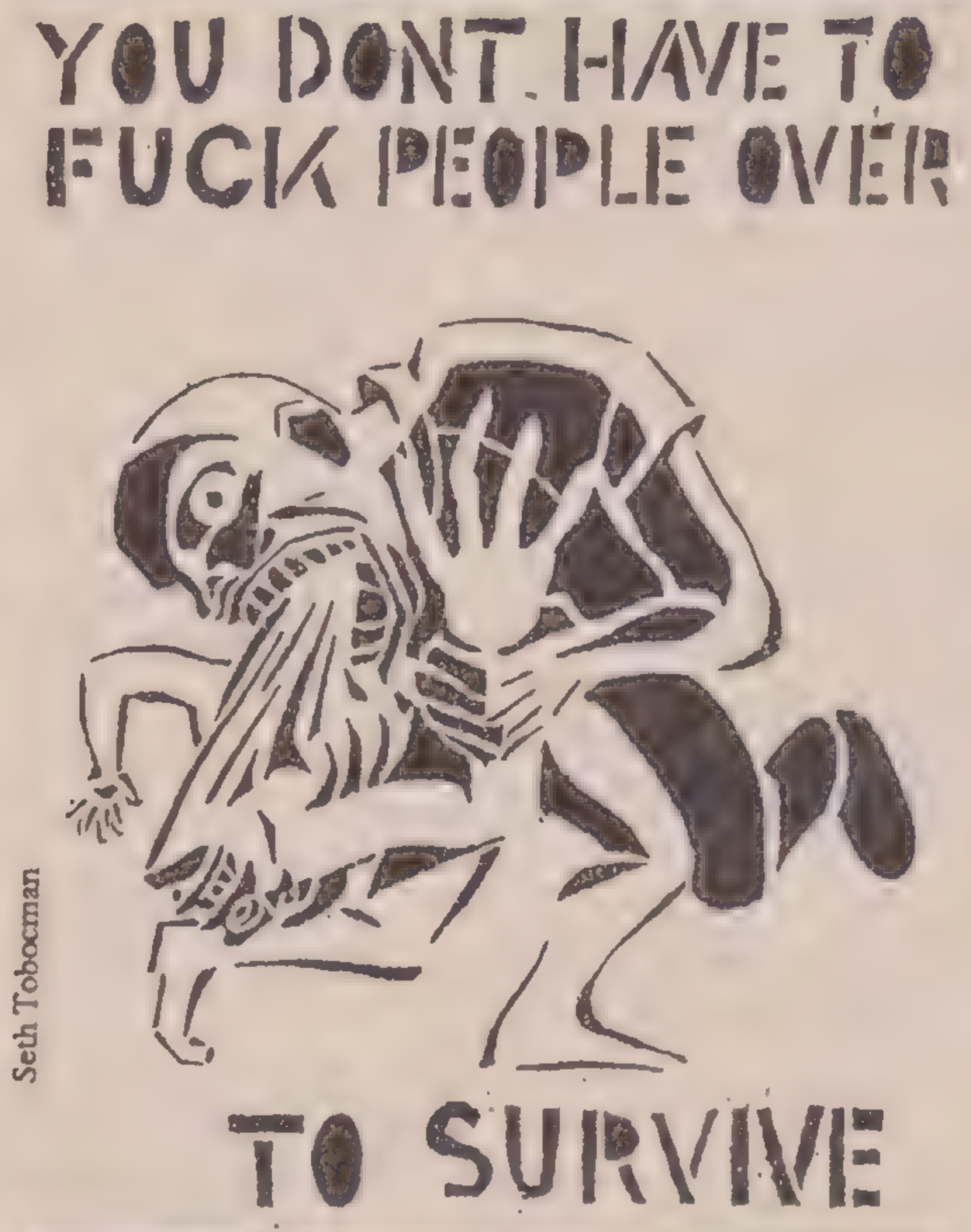
Maximum RocknRoll and Pressure Drop Press share office space, equipment and resources. At this time, Maximum RocknRoll is funding the next few releases until Pressure Drop can financially support itself. When that happens, all profits will be used for future MRR and Pressure Drop projects. Pressure Drop Press is operated by a core of volunteers who donate their time as a labor of love and conviction.

All Pressure Drop Press releases are priced as inexpensively as possible. Since most book distributors demand 55% of any book's retail price, our releases have what we consider to be high cover prices. To compensate, we deal directly with stores and make our releases available at the lowest price through mailorder.

The world of book publishing, like the music industry, is based on money and rules. In keeping with punk values, Pressure Drop Press books by design break away from these conformist literary and political standards. Our task is to question, provoke and inspire.

For more information about Pressure Drop Press releases, please write: P.O. Box 460754, San Francisco, CA 94146

—Martin Sprouse for Pressure Drop Press



Seth Tobocman

Pressure Drop Press releases:
001 - *Threat By Example*, by Martin Sprouse, Spring 1989 A collection of essays and artwork by people active in the punk community.
002 - *A No Record Deal*, by John Yates with contributions by Doug Minkler, Martin Sprouse and Harry Sherrill, Spring 1990. A graphic assault on consumerism and commercialism.
003 - *You Don't Have To Fuck People Over To Survive*, by Seth Tobocman, Summer 1990. Graphics and stories about social warfare in America from one of the editors of *World War 3 Illustrated*.
004 - *Darkness Throws Down The Sun*, by Peter Plate, Fall 1990. A ficto-analytical story about Sam Melville and the Attica State Prison uprising, the first televised prison riot in the history of humanity.
005 - *Sabotage In The American Workplace*, compiled by Martin Sprouse and Lydia Ely, Winter 1990. Anecdotes and essays from people who use sabotage as a weapon against friction, boredom, harassment and oppression in the workplace.

VINYL

SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103 (415)431-2725
EPICENTER ZONE 475 VALENCIA 2nd fl

STATISTICS

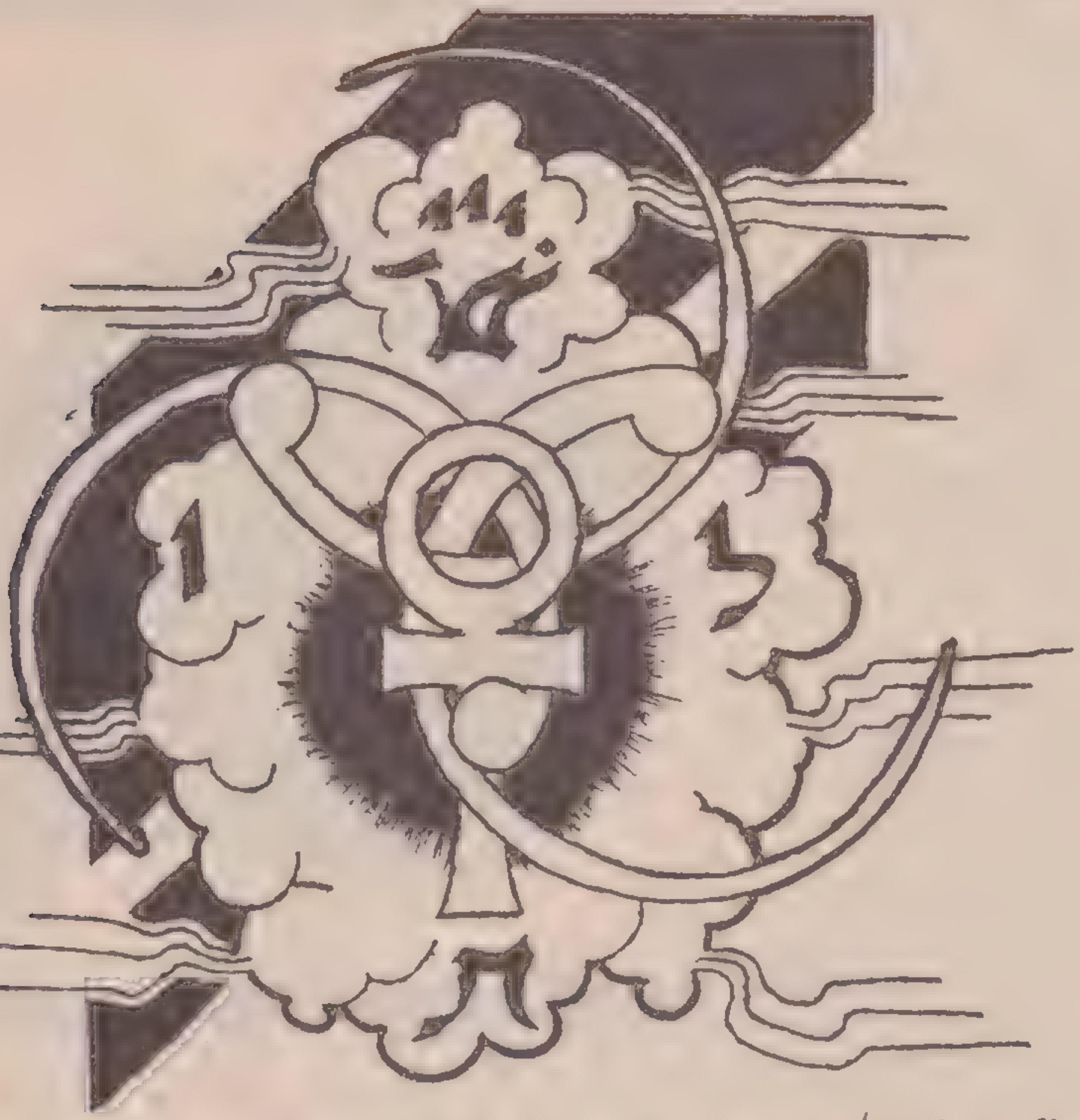
Epicenter Zone is a not-for-profit record store/community center located in the heart of San Francisco's North Mission area. We received our initial funding partly from Maximum RocknRoll, and as with all MRR-type projects, all workers are volunteers and have a voice in the operation of the business, though those who work the most, practically speaking, have more effect. The coordinators on this project are Honey Owens and Clay Cadic, with a whole slew of great volunteers. Since the project has just gotten underway, it's too early to list all those who will grow into it, but their contributions are what will make it click.

All the new records sold at Epicenter Zone are on independent labels. The reason behind this is simple: independently produced records are not distributed widely—and when and if these records ever make it into a record store, they are astronomically priced. Because Epicenter is a new venture we will have to experiment to find what type of mark up we will be needed to cover our expenses, though we're hoping 25% will do it. One thing is certain, though: Epicenter Zone will have the largest selection of independent records at the lowest prices seen in a long, long time.

A huge selection of used records covering a broad spectrum of musical tastes is available at the Epicenter Zone. We sell both major and independent labels in our used section (since selling used major label records doesn't offeri monetary support to the majors). In addition to our main collection, we have a collector's corner featuring very rare records. We buy used records for 1/2 of what we sell them for, or 2/3 in trade. This enables us to offer both the seller and buyer the best deals possible. Any record valued at more than $20.00 is sold for bid or trade.

In addition to the record store, Epicenter Zone has a library of alternative press materials. The goal is to stimulate interest in non-mainstream publications that focus on politics, sexuality, environmental issues, anthropology, art, gender issues, racism, music and literary criticism. We don't exclude any topic or publication, as long as it doesn't promote oppressive, authoritarian, racist, sexist or classist ideas. Hopefully, the library will become a center for discussion and study. Readers have access to a copy machine so they can duplicate material they are interested in. The library needs more magazines; any donations of either single issues or subscriptions would be greatly appreciated. Old magazine collections would also be helpful.

We are sharing warehouse space with Blacklist Mailorder. We have a very large space which offers us tremendous potential to expand our endeavor. Once things begin to run smoothly we plan to have bands make occasional in store appearances, and also plan to have art displays and community meetings. Anyone wishing to volunteer, donate magazines, or sell a used record collection can either call us at (415) 431-2725 or write to Epicenter Zone, 475 Valencia St., San Francisco, CA 94103.



Maybe my whole outlook on life results because of too literal a reading of Gary Snyder.

★★★★★

Maybe my whole philosophy is the result of thinking the Beat Generation wasn't a front. I remember a book called **STONED APOCALYPSE**. I forget who wrote it. C_______ loaned it to me. It, more than **GO** by Clellan Holmes or any of Kerouac's novels—with the exception of **THE DHARMA BUMS** and maybe **DESOLATION ANGELS** (which I read later than the others, probably)—convinced me that the lifestyle of the French Quarter, which I tried my best to despise when I lived there (because Ayn Rand didn't like Beatniks) was far more interesting than any of the predominating cultures in the West, with the possible exception of the Parisians. Wouldn't it be funny if that is all the result of a misunderstanding of a bunch of Republicans talking in cant!

★★★★★

NBC still thinks I'm the one who was being fascistic in 1979. That's only true to the extent that Robert Anton Wilson's philosophy is fascist, and to the extent that I linked Wilson in my mind with "Chicago"—because that's what CBS called him. Finding out who the link in communication between us was would be enlightening, I'd guess. I suspect the are far more rightist and authoritarian than I am.

★★★★★

The whole episode reminds me of the misunderstandings that develop between Blacks and Jews—where both regard the more extreme of the other as racists.

★★★★★

I think there are ruling class people who incessantly divide and conquer—over who is straight and who is gay, or who is one color and who it another or who jacked off and who doesn't—and I notice whenever I become eloquent about that subject when I'm watching NBC, they look guilty.

★★★★★

Of course they are "looking for" someone else.

★★★★★

Krishna said not to preach. The Buddha said not to discuss metaphysics. Jesus said not to pray out loud in public. Chairman Mao said not to resort to rough and metaphysical arguments. Why do finite minds constantly chatter about what is infinite? Maybe Albert Einstein knew when he told Fritz Perls that only the universe and human stupidity are infinite, adding that he wasn't certain about the universe.

★★★★★

Chuang-Tzu, my favorite sage, said to be careful never to send the finite in pursuit of the infinite.

★★★★★

I imagine it is profitable to the rulers to stimulate holy wars.

★★★★★

Lately the labor pool has taken up harassing me where the landlady left off. Both were linked to G______. G______ always tells me that if I want a Permanent Universal Rent Strike I'm going to have to endure a whole lot of unjust and perfectly unfair harassment. Last time he said that I mumbled something about, "All right—next time don't try to kill me if you can help it, though." (That wasn't long after the enormous black guy hit me outside the 7-11 in Tampa).

★★★★★

They say Stephen Gaskin is who is conducting the inquisition into my religious beliefs of the lack of them. Why is a mystery to me. I invited him to cooperate with me instead of with the racists in exposing, instead of blocking exposure, of the Huntsville-Havana War Pact—in which case (resulting in war crimes trials or the like) I'd be only too glad to quit and let him be King, if that's what he wants. Instead, he sends spies to determine my metaphysics. I don't send people to spy on him. I don't care to harass him. I just want him to stop saying that the Huntsville-Havana Pact doesn't, or didn't, exist. In this respect he is like David Rockefeller, who hasn't to my knowledge contributed one iota of data about the war criminals in the three or four years since I made peace with him and asked for help in that area. Moreover, he's accused of sending spies or making threats to interfere with my personal life. (J_______ is afraid to make love with me because of what she thinks David would do to her). I wouldn't interfere with the personal affairs of my worst enemy. How do these people expect to behave with the arrogance of Marie Antoinette without me denouncing them as pigs? Behavior like that by David Rockefeller created the first problem between us in 1977.

I want a list of everyone with prior knowledge of the Vietnam War. I don't want sexual advice and I don't want my friends intimidated.

Anyway—three or four years ago I asked for David's help in bringing about war crime trails in Vietnam of Americans, Cubans, Russians and Germans involved in the plot to make "war against an Asian race" instead of Castro.

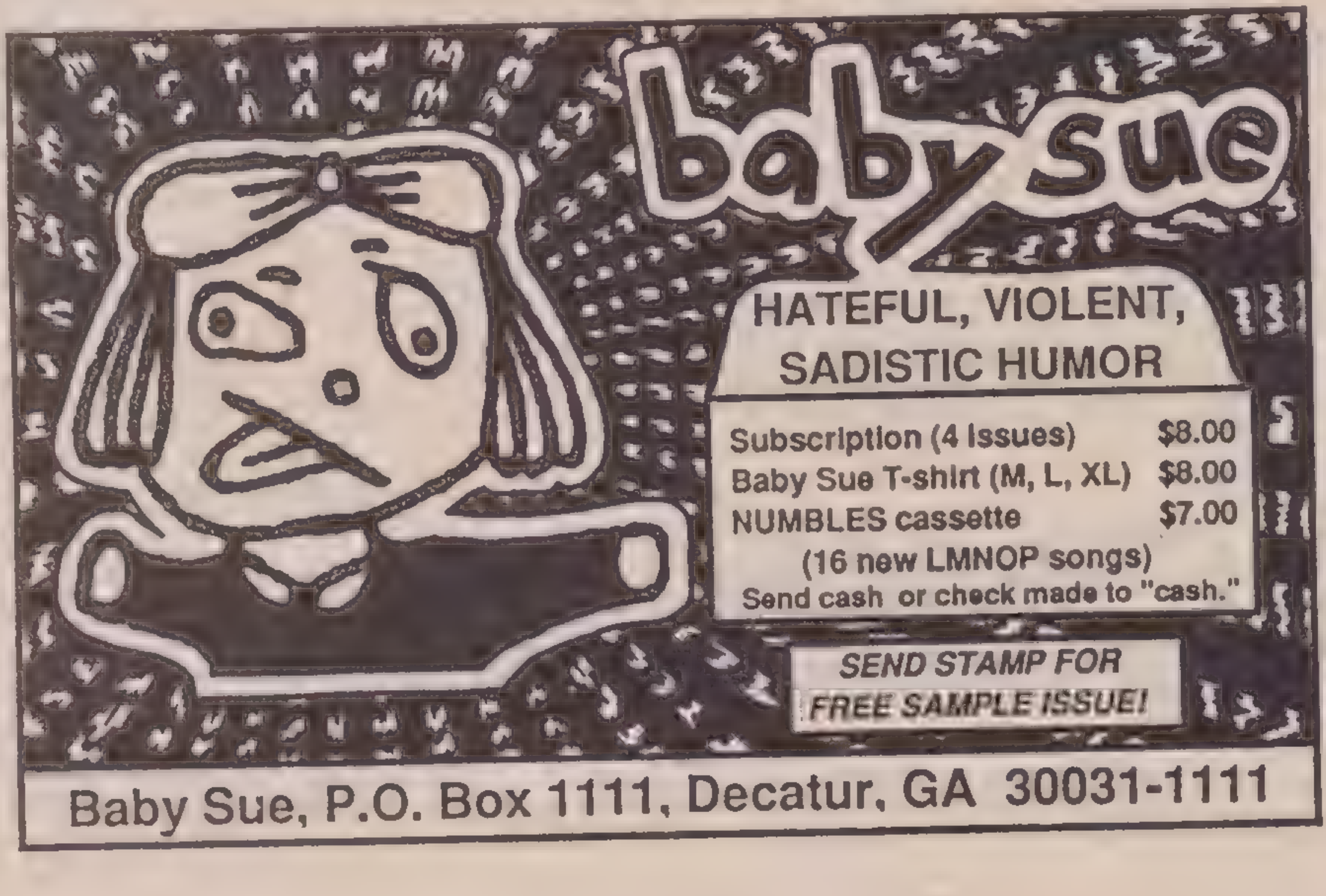
I waited. I waited and I waited. I refused to join forces with people attacking David—as per summer before last at M_______'s—which made them so angry I was bombarded with nightmares all night. Griffin Bell, a Rockefeller agent and a racist Sunday school bomber, continued to harass me—although under the circumstances he is intimidating a witness in a case where he is a defendant. The same is true of Jackie Onassis, who also had prior knowledge of the war.

Conclusion: Nazism is the philosophy of the ruling class, and is adhered to just as much by the Rockefellers and Kennedys as the rest.

What else am I supposed to decide? What basis is there for drawing *any* other conclusion?

★★★★★

[Here ends Kerry's manuscript, **HOW TO FORGET ABOUT JESUS AND CHANGE YOUR WHOLE LIFE!** Previous installments appeared in FF33, 34, 35 and 36.]



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Threats to Your Rights: A Factsheet Five Special Report

> AMENDMENT I.
>
> Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.
>
> AMENDMENT IV.
>
> The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

I still believe—perhaps somewhat naively—that the plain English of the U.S. Constitution quoted above means what it says. Unfortunately a lot of other people apparently have different opinions, and many of these people work for the government. There's a pattern of repression going on which attacks our rights to free speech and security, as well as our rights to compensation for property seized and a jury trial before conviction.

What follows are short essays on a number of government actions which disturb me greatly. I'm leaving out a lot of others, including the Mapplethorpe obscenity cases, the pressure to defund the NEA, the bombing of the Earth First! activists, due to a lack of space and to be able to focus in on the core cases.

If you agree with me that there's something seriously wrong here, the last page of this special section has a list of groups you can support who are fighting this swing away from liberty and justice.

Operation Sun Devil

> 2. On or about February 23, 1988, at Lockport, in the Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division and elsewhere,
>
> CRAIG NEIDORF, also known
>
> as Knight Lightning,
>
> defendant herein, for the purposes of executing the aforesaid scheme did knowingly transmit and cause to be transmitted by means of a wire and radio communication in interstate commerce from Columbia, Missouri to Lockport, Illinois certain signs, signals and sounds, namely: a data transfer of Phrack Newsletter, Issue 24, including an edited Bell South Standard Practice (BSP) 660-225-104SV-Control Office Administration of Enhanced 911 Services for Special Services and Major Account Centers dated March, 1988;
>
> In violation of Title 18, United States Code , Section 1343
>
> (From an indictment handed up by the grand jury in the US District Court, Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division)

Operation Sun Devil was a series of Secret Service raids on computer hackers which started in late 1989 and continued through early 1990, involving 150 SS agents across the country. As far as I know, only one set of charges has come out of this. Craig Neidorf, the publisher of **PHRACK** is facing heavy fines and jail time for printing a document on the Enhanced 911 System which was leaked to him by a hacker (the indictment does *not* charge him directly with any criminal conduct in obtaining it; he is named as a conspirator in a fraud scheme, which is exceedingly easy to charge under our laws). And this is not some technical document that would enable some criminal to crash the emergency phone system. Rather, it's a discussion of billing and marketing procedures. **PHRACK** was a newsletter about computer hacking issues, which has been driven out of business prior to trial, with a conspicuous disregard for the First Amendment. Apparently the Secret Service feels that electronic magazines are not subject to the same civil rights guarantees as printed ones. Worse yet, not only was the magazine shut down, Neidorf's computer was seized. Think of the **NEW YORK TIMES** having its printing presses seized, without trial, without hearing, because the government disapproved of something printed on them. And disapproval is the key here—according to people familiar with **PHRACK**, it *never* printed access codes, credit card numbers, passwords or other material which it is illegal to publicize. At worst, the E911 document was a trade secret, in which case Neidorf should be facing a civil suit from Bell South, not criminal charges from the government. But instead, Neidorf is facing 65 years in jail—and his family is already out $60,000 in legal fees before the trial even starts.

(Incidentally, the charges stem from a law addressing transfer of computer files worth over $5,000. Bell South claims this six-page document is worth $23,900. Makes you wonder what your phone bill is paying for, doesn't it?)

Other victims of Operation Sun Devil—none charged with any crime—include Steve Jackson Games, whose sin was to be involved in designing a role-playing *game* about hacking and cyberpunks. Then there's Jolnet, which was a public message system, that was seized because some hackers used it to exchange information. This is analogous to padlocking a Post Office because some of the people receiving mail there are engaged in illegal schemes. Worse yet, some *users* of Jolnet were also raided because they were thought to have downloaded their own copy of the forbidden document.

The Secret Service conducted this raid in its usual preemptive strike manner. According to Terry Gross, a lawyer working with the Electronic Frontier Foundation (quoted in **NEWSBYTES**, 6/8/90) "Clearly there are some people breaking laws. We are not condoning that. We are objecting to the manner in which these investigations have been carried out. There have been instances of agents bursting in on 14 year-olds at 6 AM, holding fathers and little sisters at gunpoint, putting mothers in choke holds, confiscating expensive equipment. These are not drug dealers; these are children."

Let's talk about hackers here for a moment. The government and major media have succeeded in building a public image of a hacker as some shadowy figure, a nerd munching potato chips and drinking Pepsi, using his computer to destroy people's credit histories, ruin the billing records of public utilities, and start nuclear wars—in short, as a computer terrorist. There are a few people out there who probably would like to do things like that. Hackers refer to these lone nuts as "crackers" and look down on them. Hackers are essentially the explorers of the electronic frontier, guilty of breaking into computer systems but not harming them. And hacker zines and groups are strongly in favor of severe punishment for destructive crackers. Whatever you may think of trespassers, it doesn't make sense to shoot them because a few might turn into robbers.

On the other hand, the Secret Service apparently takes a more conservative view here. Lock up anyone who might cause trouble, or know how to cause trouble, and the American People can sleep soundly at night again. The SS has admitted in Congressional hearings that they monitor private BBS systems. They have even admitted starting up such systems to entrap crackers. But they were unable to tell Congress how much effort they put into this. One indication is in the response of the government to a motion of Neidorf's lawyer that the government be required to provide information on " any illegal or unauthorized activity engaged in by government agents in connection with this indictment or related activity." In a memorandum denying this motion, the judge in the case wrote "The court agrees with the government that these requests are too vague and overbroad".

Just in case there's anyone out there who thinks that this case doesn't concern them because they don't personally own a computer—you're wrong. It concerns you because computers and BBS systems and electronic mail are essential to the production of **FACTSHEET FIVE**. Almost all of the information in this special section, for example, came from the computer networks. If the government succeeds in cutting off this source of information, or in scaring people enough that they refuse to say anything controversial electronically, we will all suffer.

> First, if any opinion is compelled to silence, that opinion may, for aught we can certainly know, be true. To deny this is to assume our own infallibility.
>
> Second, though the silenced opinion be an error, it may, and very commonly does, contain a portion of the truth; and since the general or prevailing opinion on any subject is rarely or never the whole truth, it is only by collision of adverse opinions that the remainder of the truth has any chance of being supplied.
>
> Thirdly, even if the received opinion be not only true, but the whole truth; unless it is suffered to be, and actually

> is, vigorously and earnestly contested, it will, by most of those who receive it, be held in the manner of a prejudice, with little comprehension or feeling of its rational grounds. And not only this, but, fourthly, the meaning of the doctrine itself will be in danger of being lost or enfeebled, and deprived of its vital effect on character or conduct: the dogma becoming a mere formal profession, inefficacious for good, but cumbering the ground and preventing the growth of any real and heartfelt conviction from reason or personal experience.
>
> — John Stuart Mill, **ON LIBERTY**

Dewayne Readus and the Micro-Radio Station Movement

WTRA—also known as Zoom Black Magic Liberation Radio—is an outlaw radio station in Springfield, Illinois, run by black community activist Dewayne Readus. It's a one-watt radio station, with a broadcast range of a mile or so. (Due to the segregation in Springfield, that range reaches about three-quarters of the black community in Springfield). In March 1989, after a series of shows on police brutality, the FCC shut the station down at the request of the Springfield police chief. They fined Readus $750 and told him to cease and desist. A month later, he decided that this cause was too important to give up, and went back on the air as an act of civil disobedience.

This is not a case of someone who just refuses to put up with government licensing requirements, either. The FCC won't license an FM station with less than 100 watts of power, so if you're too poor to afford a rig that large ($40,000 or so) you can either broadcast illegally or not broadcast at all. (It used to be ten watts was the lower limit, but that was raised that year. I leave it to others to speculate whether the airwaves were in danger of becoming too democratic due to the dropping costs of ten-watt equipment). And it's not a case of the station interfering with other broadcasters, either. The station was told to shut down because the powers that be invoked a bureaucratic Catch-22.

The station airs a variety of shows. Some hours are dedicated to teaching neighborhood youth the skills of running a radio show, which might possibly get them out of the projects the station is located in, where adult unemployment runs a staggering 87%. Others are set aside for broadcasting cassette copies of books such as Bobby Seale's **SEIZE THE TIME** or **THE BLACK MESSIAH**—an important service in a community where illiteracy is also rampant. Rap music and taped accounts of community problems are also staples.

At last report—in early July—Readus was still on the air despite the federal court order shutting him down. He's also still spreading the idea of micro-radio as a way for minority activists and the poor to educate and organize themselves. If you want to help support Zoom Black Magic Liberation Radio with money or encouragement, write to him c/o 333 N. 12th St., Springfield, IL 62702.

> I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it.
>
> — Voltaire

2 Live Crew and your Right To Rock (Except in Florida)

I'll keep this section brief, since it's gotten pretty good major media coverage. The sale or possession of obscene material in the state of Florida is a felony punishable by up to five years in prison and a $5,000 fine. Thanks to a grandstanding DA, 2 Live Crew's rap album "As Nasty As They Wanna Be" has been declared obscene material. That means that you can't buy it in Southern Florida, the band can't perform their material, and you can't legally own a copy of the album there—no matter how old you are. (So far this ruling only applies in Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties, those being the ones under the jurisdiction of the Federal District Court which found that the album was obscene under the "contemporary community standards" ruling). Charles Freeman, owner of E-C Records in Fort Lauderdale, has already been busted for selling a copy of the album.

Following the ban, in early June the group played a concert in Hollywood, Florida—and were promptly arrested and charged with obscenity, despite having played to an adults-only crowd. They can get a year in jail and a $1,000 fine each for the performance. This is despite the fact that (according to UPI) the Sheriff the made the bust "could not say what portion of the band's live performance allegedly violated Florida's obscenity law."

Among other things, this case points out that record labeling is a red herring. The album in question *was labeled* for sale to adults only, under the "voluntary" industry standards (with the volunteering done by record company execs, not by artists). It didn't matter. If anything, it's going to hurt the band's case in court, since it practically admits that the material in question is obscene in the eyes of the issuing company.

There's also an important aspect of intimidation here: retailers in Texas, South Carolina, Virginia and Ontario were threatened by their local police or prosecutors with similar action, and all "voluntarily" removed the offending album from their shelves.

The scary aspect of this case is that 2 Live Crew's lyrics are not particularly obscene compared to some of what truly independent performers in this country have put out: people like GG Allin, Psychodrama, Lisa Suckdog, Costes, Yeastie Girlz, and the Cedar Street Sluts. How long before a stack of albums on *my* shelf becomes a legal liability if this isn't stopped now?

> There is one characteristic of the present direction of public opinion peculiarly calculated to make it intolerant of any marked demonstrations of individuality. The general average of mankind are not only moderate in intellect, but also moderate in inclinations; they have no tastes or wishes strong enough to incline them to do anything unusual, and they consequently do not understand those who have, and class all such with the wild and intemperate whom they are accustomed to look down upon.
>
> — John Stuart Mill, **ON LIBERTY**

Bob Z. and the Poster Police

Many of you probably already know about this case, but for the rest, here's a summary based on various flyers and notes put out by STOP-GRO (Stop Prosecuting Grass Roots Organizers, c/o 125 E. 23rd St. #300, New York, NY 10010). All may be freely reprinted.

"New York's Sanitation Police are attacking the constitutional rights of those who depend on the use of handbills to communicate with the public. Charging a separate $50 fine for every leaflet found posted in a public place, the Sanitation Department has become a de facto censor that assesses thousands of dollars in penalties against individuals—even for a first offense.

"The Department has set up a so-called hearing unit that generally convicts handbiller no matter what defense they present. Practically no one has ever been found not guilty in this kangaroo court, since all it takes to convict a person is the 'evidence' of a printed paper with the individual's name on it found posted somewhere.

"One small dance studio was fined a full $650 for having posted 13 leaflets. Guitar teacher Mike Barry was ordered to pay $3100; piano teacher Margie Fein $2600. Bob Z, an artist who designed several leaflets, was hit by an overpowering fine that started out at $3700, and when he resisted and mounted a legal action against the Department, they jacked up his fine, by various crooked methods, to $22,000. Outrageous penalties of this type serve no rational concept of public benefit.

"Since the Sanitation Department doesn't feel like obeying conventional rules for gathering evidence, it fines anybody whose name is on a leaflet posted on public property, whether the victim actually posted it or even knew about it. And anyone who insists on his or her right to freedom of speech and press suffers further punishment when the Department trumps up alleged further locations of postings—sometimes from places that don't even exist."

[The most recent news:]

"16 October 1989

"Preliminary results in from Bob Z postering case...$3,700 worth of fines for postering for a punk poetry show and punk rock concert were knocked down on a technicality to $300 or so. The decision handed down by judge Edith Miller in New York State Supreme Court last week, means that the New York anti-poster law remains in effect. Z and the ACLU attorneys assigned to the case, Ed Baker and Art Eisenberg, were hoping that this constitutional challenge would do away with a vaguely worded, unfair statute that allows the government to hand out unlimited fines for suspected posterers without even seeing them in the act of postering, but that didn't happen. Even though Miller reduced Z's fine, the law remains intact. Over 50 people a month continue to get fined for handbills on public property."

"...In the past 2 months, similar anti-poster laws have been adopted in nearby cities. New Haven CT and Kingston New York now have anti-poster police and hand out fines to suspected handbillers in exactly the same manner. In New Haven the local Green party is challenging the law. If you know of other places where there are anti-poster laws or police repression of the right to communicate on the street, send your info to STOP-GRO so that we can coordinate efforts."

I spoke with Bob myself in late June, as he started on a tour with his band. He says that the decision is being appealed and he's going ahead with this despite the fact that the Appeals Court could choose to reinstate the whole fine. Meanwhile, the law remains in effect, people are still ticketed, and STOP-GRO is still fighting.

> If everyone were clothed with integrity, if every heart were just, frank, kindly, the other virtues would be well-nigh useless, since their chief purpose is to make us bear with patience the injustice of our fellows.
> — Jean Baptiste Moliere

Jock Sturges and the Child "Protection" Act

On April 25, internationally-known photographer Jock Sturges answered the door to find the FBI with a stepvan—they took all his darkroom equipment, all his computer equipment, all his business records, all the prints, everything off his desk, and 100,000 negatives (many damaged by rough handling in the course of the search). The FBI entered without permission, but were at least courteous enough to wait for the arrival of the warrant (three hours later) before they started carting things off.

Meanwhile, the FBI was also busting photo technician Joe Semien. They seized all his possessions too, and took him off to jail for two days of interrogation over a particular set of photos. At a habeas corpus hearing Semien was released on his own recognizance, the judge not being impressed with the evidence for the demanded $80,000 bail.

The cause of all this was one roll of color film (Sturges did all his professional work in black and white) that Sturges took on a clothing-optional beach in France, showing families and kids walking along the beach. Semien was helping Sturges learn to process color film, and dropped the negatives off at Newell Color Lab—not to be printed, just to be developed. Newell, along with other photo labs, has recently been warned by the FBI that it was their duty under the law to report all pictures that they even suspected might fall under the scope of the child abuse laws, or they could be charged themselves. Reportedly the FBI has run sting operations against labs, submitting obscene photos for processing to see if the labs would report them and closing them down if they didn't.

Subsequently, the FBI began contacting Sturges' associates and clients, demanding to know whether Sturges ever took pornographic pictures of their kids. Apparently the FBI hasn't turned up anything suspicious; as of this writing, Sturges has not been charged with anything, despite the fact that his business has been ruined (a pattern which is becoming ominously common). AN evidentiary hearing on whether charges against Semien (he was charged with possession of child pornography for taking the film to the lab) has been postponed "indefinitely".

The law under which the FBI is barging around in this case is the Child Protection Act, which sets up five classes of pictures that are presumed to be child pornography. These are pictures of children under the age of 14 showing sexual intercourse, masturbation, bestiality, sadomasochism, or "pictures with a sexual or lascivious intent". Apparently to the FBI any photo showing the genitalia of a child is rpesumed to have lascivious intent. Obscenity is in the mind of the beholder, I guess.

Meanwhile, Sturges may not remain uncharged if the US Attorney handling the case has his way. He told **THE NATION** "the First Amendment doesn't apply" and that expert artistic testimony on the value of Sturges' work is inadmissible because "Your gut tells you and you go with that".

> "In Germany they first came for the Communists and I didn't speak because I wasn't a Communist. Then they came for the Jews, and I didn't speak because I wasn't a Jew. Then they came for the trade unionists, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a trade unionist. Then they came for the Catholics, and I didn't speak up because I was a Protestant. Then they came for me—and by that time no one was left to speak up."
> (Pastor Martin Niemoller)

The Preacher's Hints

Here's a case where our government has acted to suppress speech that they do not approve of, even though there is apparently no legal grounds to do so. It's also a case that will test the commitment to free speech of many people. It concerns a fanzine publisher who wants to remain anonymous. Let's call him The Preacher.

Last Year The Preacher was happily publishing a fanzine linked to his own particular fascinations. These included women's feet, mass murder, torture and other "cool psycho material". Since he was operating outside the bounds of good taste anyhow, he reprinted much of this material from other sources without bothering to get permission. A typical edition of The Preacher's Slavering Rants was made up of newspaper stories on killings, photographs collected from a variety of sources, ads for shoes, and occasional commentary. He also printed essays, such as "Handy Hints for Messier Massacres", a selection of advice for the would-be mass murderer interested in increasing his kill count.

The Preacher also had the good sense to take a few precautions, knowing that many people would not approve of his festish. This included renting a private mailbox as an address, and using a false name to do so. At the tail end of last March, the fellow running the mail drop service said "Preacher, I want to talk to you. The FBI was here this morning, asking for your home address and phone number. They did not have any subpoena or warrant, so I told them I wouldn't give them the information. But they said they would be back soon and they would have a subpoena. If they give me a subpoena, I will release this information to them." The Preacher thanked the guy, took his mail, and left.

The Preacher called his lawyer, hired a friend to pick up the mail and advised the mail drop owner that he was doing so. The next day he met with his lawyer. The Preacher writes,

"My lawyer advised me that my zine was obviously in violation of copyright law, plus I was in violation of child pornography law since my zine contained photo reproductions of people obviously under the age of 18 with their genitals clearly visible. So I asked the lawyer for his advice, and he told me to immediately terminate my mailbox, destroy all remaining copies of the zine, and disappear from the scene." (Note that this material is child pron by the legal definition which these days pretty well prevents all pictures of naked pre-teens; I personally do not consider the images The Preacher used to be pornographic.)

Despite this, The Preacher elected to wait and see. About 9 days later his agent reported that the FBI had been to the mail drop with a subpoena and been given the rental information from the mail box—which, you will recall, was false anyhow.

The Preacher still didn't give up. "Once again I met with my lawyer and he tells me that I *have* to stop publishing and get out of the scene while I still have a chance. *But*, being a stubborn psychopath, I am still not convinced. I say to my lawyer, 'How do we know what the FBI really wants with me? Perhaps one of my readers has committed a crime and they just want to ask me if I knew about it, or maybe it's something similar to that which is not really cause for me to abandon publishing my zines. How about this, you will telephone the FBI and advise them that you are the attorney for me, and then you will ask the FBI what exactly they want from me, why they are enquiring.'"

The FBI refused to discuss the matter over the phone, but a meeting was arranged at FBI headquarter in town. "Well, anyway, my lawyer went to FBI headquarters and met with the agent investigating me, and the FBI pig basically said that my zine contained material which was in violation of federal law against 'Distribution of Child Pornography.' The agent had in his possession issues #3,4,5, and 6 of my zine. My lawyer asked where the agent had gotten my zines, but the pig did not answer the question. It does seem most likely that the FBI had someone pose as a regular person and so ordered my zines. But although at the beginning of the meeting the pig made a big point of this 'Distribution of child porn' thing, as the meeting progressed the FBI agent focused almost entirely on issue #6 and on my essay 'Handy Hints for Messier Massacres'. The agent actually read aloud a good portion of the essay, making comments about how this was a 'blueprint for mass murder' and how there were 'hundreds of deranged people walking the streets who could use this garbage to kill innocent people.'

"My lawyer went on his spiel and told the agent about how my zine was a work of artistic expression, and how it should not be taken literally, and also how my zine was not-for-profit, etc., but as you might expect, the FBI pig did not really care about what my lawyer said, and went on his pig squeal about how my zine violated the law on child porn and how the FBI could bring criminal charges against me and shit like that. Interestingly enough, they never did actually mention the Criminal Code number or quote the specific law that they would charge me with. They did talk a lot about how they wanted me to stop publishing and distributing the zine. So my lawyer told me that in his opinion, the FBI was not really *eager* to pursue a court case, but were very determined to stop me from continuing to publish and distribute my zines. Although it was never said directly by the agents, the implication was that if I stopped publishing my zines the FBI would drop the matter and not cause me any further problems, but if I continued publishing, they would not hesitate to take me to court."

So that's the situation. The FBI finds out about a small-circulation publication (quite possibly from a review in **FACTSHEET FIVE**, though this can't be proved), gets a few copies, and is horrified. Fortunately for them, although giving advice on murder is not illegal, child porn is, and the zine contains pictures of naked minors. The FBI is more than happy to use this as a stick to force the zine to shut down. No charges, no trial, just implied threats. Sure is great to live in a country where the government will let you say whatever you want in print.

> It is of more importance to the community that innocence should be protected than it is that guilt should be punished, for guilt and crimes are so frequent in the world that all of them cannot be punished, and many times they happen in such a manner that it is not of much consequence to the public whether they are punished or not. But when innocence itself is brought to the bar and condemned, especially to die, the subject will exclaim, "It is immaterial to me whether I behave well or ill, for virtue itself is no security." And if such a sentiment as this should take place in the mind of the subject there would be an end to all security whatsoever.
>
> — John Adams

Operation Green Merchant

In October 1989 the DEA carried out 42 raids under the code name of Operation Green Merchant, part of the "War on Drugs". Their targets were not dealers, importers, growers, or even users. No, the targets of this raid were 42 stores selling high-tech gardening supplies such as hydroponics equipment and indoor plant growth lights. For some reason the manufacturers of this equipment, corporations like General Electric and North American Phillips, have not been similarly harassed.

The stores involved had their entire inventory confiscated without compensation, all their business records seized, and their bank accounts frozen on the theory that they were tainted by drug money. The authorities just missed one little detail: to the best of my knowledge, not one single store owner has been charged, arrested, or even called before a grand jury (though most of their employees have been to see the grand jury, some two and three times).

In one interesting sideline, one of the raided stores was Full Moon Farm Products in Oregon, which happened to be owned by the publisher of the marijuana growers' magazine **SINSEMILLA TIPS**. With the store out of business, and ad revenues for **ST** severely down because of these raids, it is likely that the magazine will go out of business. The same goes for **HIGH TIMES**. (If you want to help out, you can buy a copy of the book **THE BEST OF SINSEMILLA TIPS** for $20.95 or the book and all 23 back issues for $99, from New Moon Publishing, PO Box 90, Corvallis, OR 97339. This may well be your last chance to buy this material, ever.)

It's a sad day when stocking and selling light bulbs becomes illegal.

Groups and Publications Fighting for Your Rights

The Alliance for Cultural Democracy, PO Box 7591, Minneapolis, MN 55407; (415)-346-8031: These folks have done some work on the case of Dewayne Readus.

CENSORSHIP NEWS, $25/yr from National Coalition Against Censorship, 2 W. 64th St., New York, NY 10023; (212)-724-1500.

Citizens for Freedom of Agriculture, 1916-M Old Middlefield Way, Mountain View, CA 94043; (415)-965-1506: This is the defense committee for Kevin Bjornson, proprietor of Hydro-Tech.

COUNTERATTACK, $1 from Refuse & Resist!, 305 Madison Ave. #1166, New York, NY 10165; (212)-941-5474.

The Electronic Frontier Foundation, One Cambridge Center, Suite 300, Cambridge, MA 02142; (617) 577-1385: A new group formed to help the public understand computers, civilize the electronic frontier, and to do so "in a way which is in keeping with our society's highest traditions of the free and open flow of information and communication."

EXTRA!, $3.50 from FAIR, 175 Fifth Ave. #2245, New York, NY 10010: Independent analyses of media bias.

FREE PRESS NETWORK, $20/yr from PO Box 15548, Columbus, OH 43215: Newsletter of the Free Press Association, a group of Libertarian journalists.

FREE SPEECH, AVN Publications, 8600 West Chester Pike #300, Upper Darby, PA 19082; (215)-789-2085: "the bi-weekly First Amendment Newsletter".

GAUNTLET, $8.95 from 309 Powell Rd., Springfield, PA 19064: A fat magazine dedicated entirely to censorship issues that reprints both essays and material which has been attacked.

Libertarian Party National Headquarters, 1528 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, DC 20003.

LIES OF OUR TIMES, $2.50 from 145 W. 4th St., New York, NY 10012: Tracks the news coverage of the **NEW YORK TIMES**.

MEMORANDUM, $20/yr from ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611; (312)-280-4223): The monthly newsletter of the American Library Assicuation office concerned with these matters.

No More Censorship, PO Box 11458, San Francisco, CA 94101: Originally formed as a defense fund in the Frankenchrist case, now active in tracking all manner of censorship attempts.

Parents for Rock and Rap, PO Box 53, Libertyville, IN 60048: "...a watchdog for artistic freedom in the music industry. It will work to monitor legislation and work to expose and combat all forms of music censorship."

People for the American Way, 2000 M St. NW #400, Washington, DC 20036.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM ALERT, $15/yr from Coalition for Religious Freedom, 515 Wythe St. #201, Alexandria, VA 22314.

THE ROC, $6/yr from Rock Out Censorship, c/o Woods, 320 S. Cadiz St., Jewett, OH, 43986.

ROCK & ROLL CONFIDENTIAL, $24/yr from PO Box 15052, Long Beach, CA 90815; (213)-594-6866: Publishers of the anti-labelling **YOU'VE GOT A RIGHT TO ROCK** pamphlet and very active in the fight against music censorship in general.

The Small Press Support Foundation, 6 Arizona Ave., Rensselaer, NY 12144; (518)-479-3707: Yes, that's another activity run out of the **FACTSHEET FIVE** offices. We give away money to small publishers who've had problems of various sorts, including censorship. No, you can't apply for a grant, but we'd be happy to hear about others you think should get a grant.

STOP-GRO (Stop Prosecuting Grass Roots Organizers, c/o 125 E. 23rd St. #300, New York, NY 10010: An organization for people fighting the New York City Poster Police.

Student Press Law Center, 1754 Eye Street NW #504, Washington, DC 20006.

The WELL: WELL stands for Whole Earth 'Lectronic Link and it's a public computer conferencing system, a place for people to hang out and chat with one another. It provides fast and cheap access to current news and lively discussions; the First Amendment conference on the WELL was a primary source of material for this section. There are many similar systems, but this is the one I hang out on. To join, you need a computer and a modem; call (415)-332-6106 at 1200 baud or (415)-332-7190 at 2400 baud and type "newuser" at the login prompt to register.

My thanks to all the people on the WELL who helped with source material for this section.

Additional copies of this four-page special section are available. Send an SASE for a single copy or $4 for 25 copies.

COMICS
K. LEMMING

5 O'CLOCK SHADOW #3 (75¢ from Not Available Comics, 3867 Bristow, Detroit, MI 48212): A minicomic featuring Matt Feazell, Matthew Madden, and a few other talents. It's fun stuff, from a piece on the horrors of television programming kids to some real-life stuff from Feazell. Recommended. (M-24)

ADVENTURES OF A DEAD TEENAGER #4 (50¢ & a stamp from A.C. Rempt, 260 E. Monroe St., Pomona, CA 91767): Just to clarify last issue's review, even though the dead teen in question is named Jesus, that's pronounced "Hey-soos", and he's definitely not a Christ figure. Nope, more of a confused kid, hanging around (in this issue) with a slothful and marginal friend and continuing the plot to kill the Vice President. It's hard to believe that all the loose plot ends here can be wrapped up, but I'm looking forward to where else they go. (D-12)

THE ADVENTURES OF PRIEST MAHEU AND GUNTER PIG (75¢ from Kurt Beaulieu, 4230 Pierre de Coubertin #9, Montreal, QUE, CANADA): Maheu is a drunkard who also happens to be a priest. Pig is a new recruit in for training—not to mention a shock. Pretty disrespectful, to say the least. (M-8)

AFTERSHOCK #3 ($2 from PO Box 232, Pennington, NJ 08534): The contents here are actually pretty varied, but comics are definitely one of the core topics, with the adventures of Freedom Man and a batch of comic reviews. They also review music and have some strong things to say in opposition to censorship. (HL-16)

ALL COVER COMICS #5 (25¢ & a stamp from Randy Paske, 4841 Birch Ln., Gilbert, MN 55741-9631): A minicomic collection of covers for "Comics Too Cool to be Real". David Lee Ingersoll has several excellent pieces in this issue, along with Matt Feazell and Barta. (M-8)

ALTER EGO #2 (trade for other comics from Tommy Hojager Olesen, Marius Holst Gade 6, 4th, DK-8700 Horsens, DENMARK): A continuing comic in the hard-boiled detective mode. But the plot is bizarre and uncontrollable, because each issue is based on ten words chosen at random from books and magazines. Bleak and confusing. (A4-1)

☐**AN AMERICAN FROG SAMPLER #1-2** (75¢ from Robert Blystone, RD #1 Box 249m Creekside, PA 15732-9801): A minicomic with scenes from the war between the frogs and the toads—both humanoid, of course. It's a bit reminiscent of *Patton*, and somewhat juvenile in execution though not especially in concept. Who knows where this will go. #2 has Rosie the Ribbeter as a walk-in character. (M-8)

☐**AMOEBATOONS** (SASE & one dime from ken Wagner, PO Box 587, Olean, NY 14760): Pretty funny one-celled comics. It's an idea I've seen done before but artist Terry Havens has some new ideas and good tie-ins to current events. Obviously you shouldn't expect too much artistic talent here though. (L-2)

ARCANS #2 (50¢ from Ken Wagner, PO Box 587, Olean, NY 14760): A superhero fantasy comic that draws in gods, sea serpents, treachery, intrigue and more. The layout and action are good, the art is a bit flat and uninteresting, the overall feel is of an imitation of the majors rather than an independent creation. (M-24)

☐**BABES IN ARMS** (2 stamps from Allen Salyer, PO Box 15512, Royal Oak, MI 48068-1551): A selection of drawings of "Fashions for the Next Revolution"—which means carefully coiffed young women in various states of dress and undress with a variety of firearms and other weapons. Imaginary pinups for the soldier of fortune set. (D-12)

☐**BARSTOW PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS #1** ($1 from Robin Reed, PO Box 1803, Manchester, CT 06040): If comic book characters were actually actors playing roles, this book would make sense. It discusses half a dozen such characters, focusing on Candy Blondell, in 1950's movie fan club terms. A different idea, but one which fell somewhat flat. (D-20)

BARSTOW UNIVERSE #5 ($1 from Robin Reed, PO Box 1803, Manchester, CT 06040): More cute and hilarious comics from Robin Reed. The alien Xanthan Gum continues his education on earth, while Brick Mason, God of Architecture, meets the Gods of Football. There are also a few dinosaur jokes and an interview with the fabled Chuck Barstow. The art is still a bit crude, but improving. (D-20)

☐**BATCOW #6-9** (35¢ from Wayne A. Wolbert, 6323 Cherrywood #2, Portage, MI 49002): A strange little comic featuring a city very similar to Batman's Gotham City but inhabited by talking cows. Wayne has a good eye for design, and although the execution here is somewhat clumsy it's improving fast. Could develop well if not sued out of existence. (D-12)

☐**BEAT COMICS #6** ($2 from Karl Heitmueller, PO Box 1886, Lancaster, PA 17603): This is a fine piece of work that combines comics with Karl's job in a record store; indeed, a couple of his strips are autobiographical. He also writes about the *Batman* furor, draws a nifty superhero strip in "Alleycat", and publishes amusing work (I loved the fractured superhero origins) from other folks. A long time between issues, but well worth the wait. (D-40r)

☐**BEING AND NOTHINGNESS** (45¢ from Jeff Gillette; Nullification Presentations, 1998 Huntington, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236): "A study of suburban, existential boredom" starring a rather ambiguous protagonist. Despite the beer belly, pimple and other details he remains a shadowy figure, trapped in a life of TV, drawing comics, beer and wondering what the heck it's all about. Captures a feeling we've all had at one time or another. (M-24)

BODEEN #7 (70¢ from Sulzbach, PO Box 1694, Phenix City, AL, 36867): Bodeen is a stereotypical biker, interested in his bike, his dope and his woman, in roughly that order, This mini is a bit disjointed, hopping from panel to panel, and doing mostly violent or sexist humor. The art has improved quite a bit since the first issue I saw, though. (M-8)

THE BOHO BROS' ALPHABET SOUP KITCHEN ($4 from Jabberwocky Graphix, PO Box 166255, Irving, TX 75016): A collaborative work of alphabetical rhymes and drawings from Ted Bolman and Wayne Honath. A sample page has the couplet "The Kachinas come down from the mountains each year/they go back with Kielbasa and three Kegs of beer". Fun and funny, with a full-color wraparound cover. (HL-32)

BOILED ANGEL #5 ($2 & 25¢ postage from Michael C. Diana, PO Box 5254, Largo, FL 34649-5254): A collection of rude and crude (not to mention obscene and blasphemous) drawings from a variety of artists. Jesus gets involved in a variety of sexual antics, there are excerpts from a torture manual, and a couple of skinheads get castrated. There are text pieces in the same sick vein. A prime candidate for banning in the 90s. (D-112)

BROKEN HAMMER #3 (50¢ from 1211 Mill St., Eugene, OR 97401): "An infantile Magazine Not for Wholesome People" is the pretty accurate self-description here. Rude drawings, densely-scribbled and impenetrable strips, collage, internal organs and dayglo demons are all muddled together here. (M-32)

☐**BUDDHA ON THE ROAD #1-2** ($1.75 from Colin Upton, 6424 Chester St., Vancouver, BC V5W 3C3, CANADA): A strange comic where the protagonist is in a heap of trouble. You see, in #1 he accepts a contract to kill one organized crime lord and the real Lord as part of a package deal. This leads directly to #2, where God's minions and enemies begin squabbling over his soul and direction in life. Exceedingly strange, and drawn with Colin's usual grace and economy of line. (D-20)

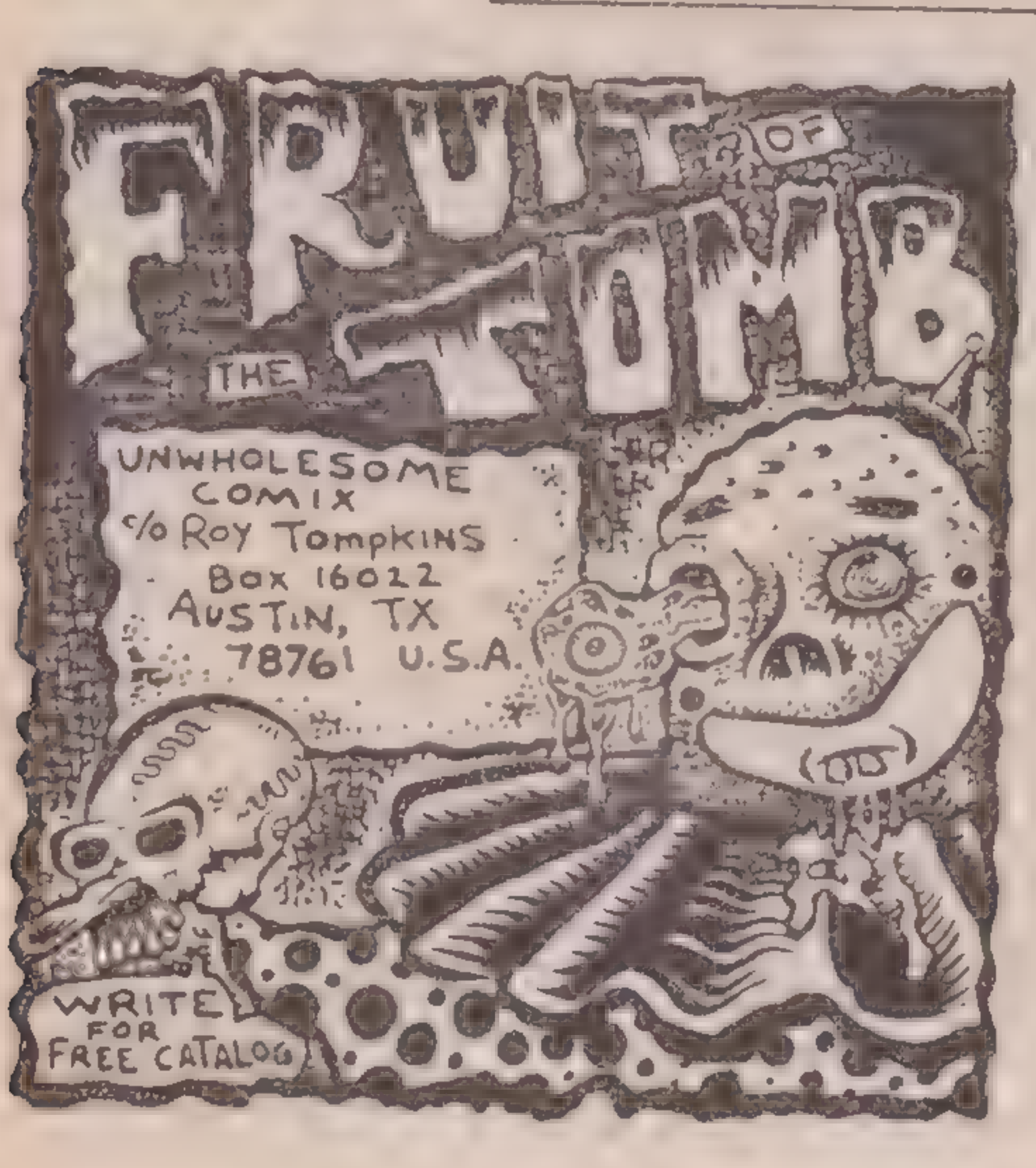
☐**CARROTT TALES** (50¢ & a stamp from Susan Dorne, 551 Park Ave., Windsor, CT 06095): Another collection of Tish's Stan Carrott strips. This time they take on a more technological bent (though how technological can a talking carrot get?) with lots of interplanetary travel mixed into the plot. In the end some fantasy elements creep in too. Fractured fun.

CATHEDRALS OF THE DAMNED #1 ($10/6 issues from Hart, 1076 Curran St., Atlanta, GA 30318): Dark and fascinating sword and sorcery comics. Hart has the knack of creating worlds that draw the viewer in with detail and style. There's a dead hero come-back to life, sorcery, the fate of nations in the balance...and this is only the prologue. (S-28)

CHAPEL ZONE #52 ($1 from Doug Chapel Comics, 38 Reservoir St., Holden, MA 01520): This is the most coherent issue of CZ I've seen yet, with an intro explaining that the Zone is a place where normal looking people do strange things. In the strip we are introduced to a number of these denizens, including a man who makes coffee all day and a hunter of aliens. Enjoyably weird. (D-12)

☐**CLIPBOARD COMICS #1** ($2 from Robert Blystone, RD 1 Box 249,Creekside, PA 15732): A small comic book with a cardstock cover. It attempts to set up a new society in this first issue, with aliens and a school reporter and other unlikely characters. However, the art just doesn't cut it. It's quite possible the author is still as young as this makes him look, but I'd say it was premature to release it. (M-24)

☐**COLIN UPTON'S BIG THING** ($3.75 from Colin Upton, 6424 Chester St., Vancouver, BC V5W 3C3, CANADA): This is Colin's first full-sized comic, complete with color cover, and it's a good collection of his work. He draws in a realistic style, concentrating on real life: parties, crazy street people, the cops, buying beer for underagers, crossing the border. Throughout he manages to be entertaining, dissecting his own psyche as well as the foibles of those about him. (S-32)



THE COMET #8 ($2.50 from Larry Johnson, 9 St. Peter St., Jamaica Plain, MA 02130): This one is anchored in small press comics fandom, but has a much wider scope, since Larry puts in fiction and essays (such as a look at eroticism in arts) in every issue. The comics are well-drawn, with this issue featuring both a time-travel loop and some fantastic magical interactions. Also includes reviews of other comics. Loved the cover pic of the Victorian spacewoman as well. (D-48r)

COMICS F/X #15 ($2.50 from 5014-D Roosevelt Way NE, Seattle, WA 98105): The best source of news on small press and indie comics, or at least the best one that I get. They review a ton of new books in each issue, interview interesting folks (Mary Fleener and Larry Blake in this issue) and report on new ideas for distribution, conventions, and who knows what else. Each issue also features original strips from some of the small press's best artists. (T-32r)

COMIC UPDATE #115-116 ($5/12 issues from William Dockery, 2108 15th Ave., Phenix City, AL 36867): There is no earthly reason why this zine of comics reviews continues, but continue it does. Actually, there are few reviews here these days, but still plenty of in-jokes and news on feuds that perhaps three people int he world care about. Occasional sparks of interest do no t justify bothering with the rest. #116 has a piece by Rick Howe on the current state of the Small Press League. (M-8r)

COMIX RELAY #7(75¢ from Rick Howe, 1524-D Second Ave., Columbus, GA 31901): A comics review zine, mostly. There is some spot art, but the bulk of this one is discussion of small press comics, sparked by longish letters from argumentative readers. Some also wander off into related fields like SF fandom. Rick has a good long-term overview of the field, and gives generally sensible reviews. (M-20)

COMIX WAVE #87-91 (50¢ (?) from Clay Geerdes, PO Box 7081, Berkeley, CA 94707): An irregularly-issued single sheet of comics review and commentary. Clay has been around for long enough to have a good grasp of the comics industry from the mainstream to the true underground, and he writes well and sensibly. Nice shredding of the Archie comics stereotypes in #90, and ruminations on sex as a sales tool in #91, are my favorite essays of this batch. (S-2t)

COOL COMIX #2 ($1 from 17550 65th Ave., Tinley Park, IL 60477): Badly scribbled comics that were probably funny to the person who drew them. Judging by the portrayal of sex and bodily functions, the artist is not the most mature person in the world either. What little plot exists is pretty scuzzy too. (D-16)

COSMIC KALUDO #4 ($2.50 from Rikki Leeson c/o Boxholder, PO Box 581, Seattle, WA 98111): This has grown into a full-sized comic with a color cover and b&w inside. It's still the surreal space story of Astra and her various unlikely friends and acquaintances. This issue includes drugs, perversion, robots, leaping through dimensions, and more confusion than ever. (S-24)

CRITICAL MASS #14 (65¢ from Sulzbach, PO Box 1694, Phenix City, AL 36867): Violent minicomics with two main features, The Downtown Gang are a bunch of hoodlums who speak in stereotypical b-movie dialogue and seem to enjoy mayhem. Slime Joe is a horrendously nasty Oriental restaurant owner, and his place is the scene of more senseless random violence. (M-8)

CRUMP COMICS #3 (50¢ from PO Box 1837, Upland, CA 91785-1837): A scattered comic that seems to make no sense at all, with art that would for the most part be best off gracing a notebook in junior high school. Flying pet rocks, Parasite Lady, who knows. (D-12)

CURLEY TALES FROM SHAKESPEARE #1 (50¢ from Haricots Verts, 753 Tamarack Ave., San Carlos, CA 94070): A couple of cats sitting around in this minicomic spend their time talking about Shakespeare. It's a rapid-fire set of jokes and absurdities, ending with the Mickey Spillane theory. Not great literature, but not bad either. (M-8)

☐**DEAD HEAD COMIX #1** ($3 from Christoffer Lèka, Tehtaankatu 5a, 00140 Helsinki, FINLAND): After the introduction, this is all in English...which is not to say it isn't confusing. Major characters include a hardcore duck and a happy little pig. There's violence and alienation and fear and graffiti and weirdness here, but coherence is in short supply. (S_40)

☐**DECEMBER'S CHILDREN #1** ($1 from Glen Armstrong, 2951 Voorheis Rd., Pontiac, MI 48054): A single glossy sheet of strange comics. It talks of cities and kisses, with pictures of New Wavoid men and women, and doesn't make especial linear sense. (S-1)

(delta)Z477 (79¢ from Nee c/o Lynette, PO Box 36, Libertyville, IL 60048): A short comic featuring some sort of sadistic future and a stripped man trying to survive in it. Scalpels, inscrutable machines, grinning sadists. The plot is wordless and perhaps opaque; more of a mood-setter than a story-teller. (M-28)

DEMON HOUSE THEATRE ($1 from William A. Dockery, 2108 15th Ave., Phenix City, AL 36867): More of Dockery's long-running soap-opera microcomic. He gets about twenty panels to the minicomic page, each a talking head with a few words of dialogue. The plot, despite repeated tries, makes no sense to me, as the characters seem content to talk in allusions and riddles and the demon house itself is silent. (M-24)

DIRTY PLOTTE #4 (50¢ *CASH* from Julie Doucet, CP 553, Succ. C, Montreal, QUE, H2L 4K4, CANADA): This is the last mini-sized DP, because it will be coming out as a full comic this fall. That probably makes this a collector's item, with Julie's extended sequence of a man being chopped up and castrated, the illustrated Jonny Fuckerfaster, and other smarmy underground work here. (M-24)

☐**DOCKO'S FUN BIRTHDAYS** (25¢ & a stamp from Exile, 104 S. Walnut St., Muncie, IN 47305): A minicomic in ten-year-old drawing style telling of two of little sister's more memorable birthdays. On the one she wrecked a bike, on the other fell off the crossbars at school and had stitches. (MM-16)

DOG COMIX #5 (50¢ & a stamp from Randy Paske, 4841 Birch Ln., Gilbert, MN 55741-9631): A collection of visual puns by Gary Fields. Among the funniest here are "Dog Catcher" (a mutt flying through the air to the guy behind home plate at the ball game), "Dog Days" and "Dog Biscuit". (M-16)

☐**THE ELECTRIC SHARK** ($7.50 from Chris Lanier, 8 Windham Dr., Concord, NH 03301): A wild hallucinatory comic, done in the stark black and white of dreamland. The story mutates many, many times, moving from the search for the electric shark to its final appearance as the destroyer of worlds, from earth to moon and back, from friendship to racism. Lanier has got some strange ideas rattling around, and forces them down on the page for our enjoyment, or at least confusion. (S-64)

ELECTROID ONE #2 (50¢ from Greg Stomberg, 303 S. 5th St., Oregon, IL 61061): Electroid One seems to be a sort of robot or android in a future society that is like ours only more so. In a mix of text and sketchy drawings, this mini talks of mind control, evil men running things, and the rights of man. (M-8)

EMERALD CITY COMIX AND STORIES #12 ($10/10 issues from PO Box 95402, Seattle, WA 98145-2402): With #12 this tabloid has gone monthly and continues to improve with the addition of Peter Bagge as a regular. He's upstaged in this issue, though, by Mike Tackett, who presents a delightful "Hercule Parfait" murder mystery. Editor Nils Osmar continues to intrigue with his own serial of future androids and intrigue. (T-8t)

EMPIRE ROSE #1 ($1.50 from Watson Graphics, 4141 S. Indiana, Chicago, IL 60653): Vinson Watson is back with a new superhero comic. If anything, this has less plot than mainstream superhero stuff; it gets down to serious fighting in no time. New characters get introduced randomly when they can lend a punch, and all the heroes are women in the usual skintight outfits. Not much here to sink your teeth into. (HL-36)

FABULOUS FRENETIC FUNNY FURRY FAUNA FABLES#1 (25¢ & a stamp from Jeff Berkwits, 1228 Elmwood Ave. #3-E, Evanston, IL 60202-1268): A computer-drawn comic featuring Jerry The Gerbil. In this issue he's confronted by an enormous Guinea Pig with an appetite, and has to defend his people (er, rats). Silly. (M-8)

FADE TO BLACK #7 ($1 & Age Statement from Frank Lloyd Jr., PO Box 486, Richwood, WV 26261): Deliberately offensive minicomics for people who want to go beyond the edge. Decapitation, necrophilia, sadism, gore—it's all here. The art is competent enough but the subject matter is pretty disturbed. (M-8)

☐**FAMILY OF SEX #1** ($4 from Cornelius Stone, 61 Mt. Eden Rd., Eden Tce., Auckland, NEW ZEALAND): A collection of drawings between heavy textured covers. While almost all of them are captioned "Family of Sex", the subject matter varies widely, and is mainly far from explicit. A kid hung out on a clothesline,a gaggle of toothbrushes, and a laughing maniac are among the images here. (A4-32)

FAT HEAD: THE EARLY YEARS (30¢ & a stamp from Jeff Berkwits, 1228 Elmwood Ave. #3-E, Evanston, IL 60202-1268): A small collection of simple Mac comic strips, gradually developing the comic-collecting character Fat Head. The art doesn't have much character to start, but is getting somewhere by the end. Reminds me a bit of Fat Mike, but I guess there's only so much you can do with a simple geometrical paint program. (M-8)

FINE ART COMICS #12 ($1 from Andrew Roller, PO Box 221295, Sacramento, CA 95822): Roller's Chester, an uppity school kid, is actually pretty funny, though occasionally a bit crude. Unfortunately he pads out the space between strips with slanderous stories about other small press people, obscene language, and notes on child molesting. Mostly it's not funny. (S-10t)

☐**FLOP! COMIX** (50¢ from Paul Nicoloff, 800 Nelson St. #103, Austin, TX 78703): More strange and wonderful comics from Paul Nicoloff. The "Jesus Funnies" are sure to offend some folks, but I laughed anyhow. There's also a great reinterpretation of Kafka's **METAMORPHOSIS** for modern life. (M-8)

FLOTSAM & JETSON #3 (25¢ & a stamp from Nat Rabb, Ogre Comics, 612 Wyndhurst Ave., Baltimore, MD 21210): A minicomic with George Jetson being held hostage by a sort of pasty alien. There's a mystery assassin in this issue, but he doesn't seem to know enough to really advance the plot. Pretty crude but sort of charming. (M-8)

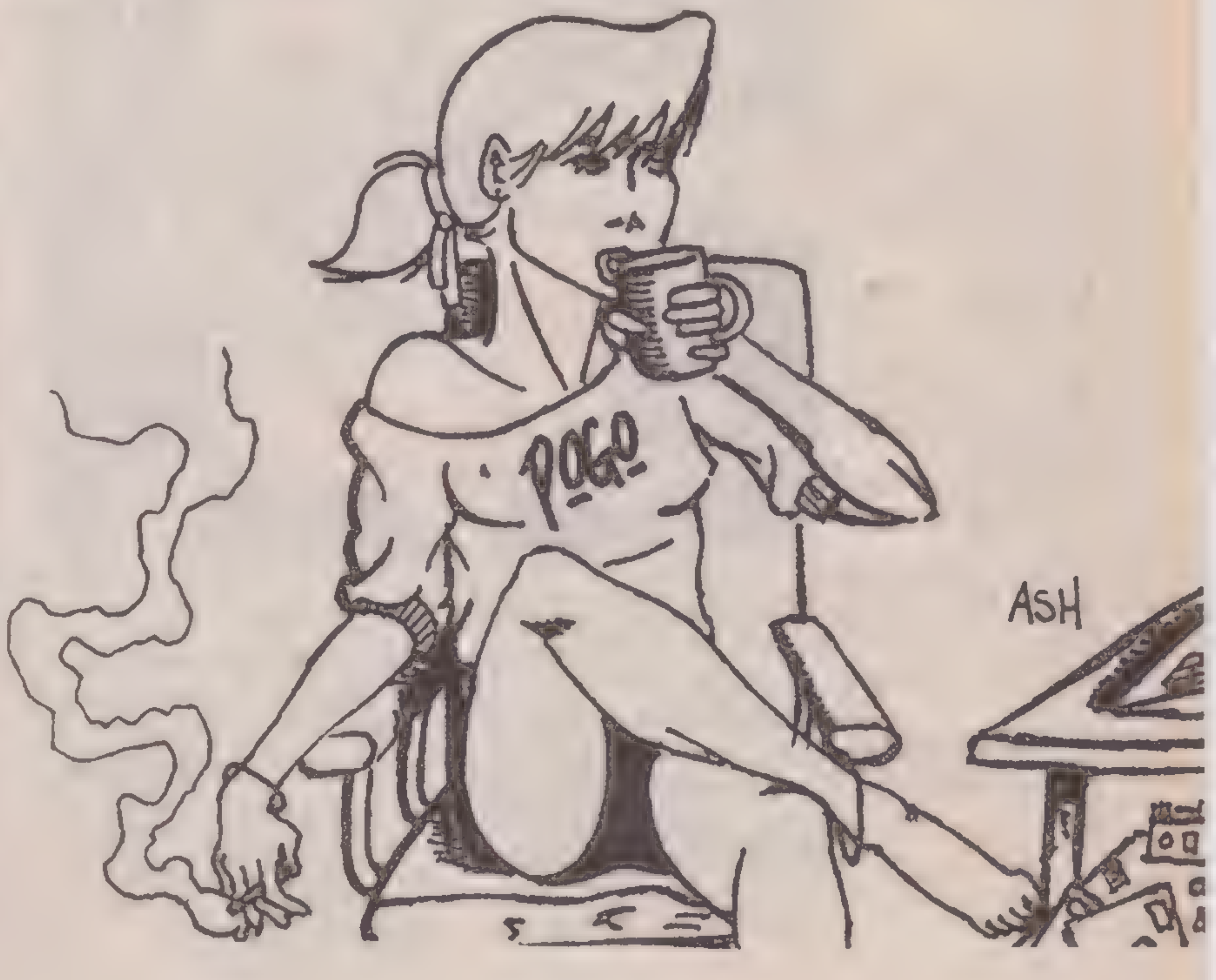
FOO COMIX #1-4 (50¢ from Matt Towler, Sponge Studio, 277 Lake Ave., Worcester, MA 01604-1101): All part of the "Adventures in Comaland" series, these microcomics show off Matt's artistic talents (fairly solid) and his crazy sense of humor. A stomach goes out for a meal, a bird proves to be booby trapped, and the Paisley Monster shows up to cause trouble. Very pop feeling. (MM-16)

FREE MEAT and **HOW TO ESTABLISH ANARCHY!** ($1 each from Shawn Collins, 7205-B Rossburg, College Park, MD 20740): A pair of minicomics featuring characters rendered as arms, legs and heads; I guess Shawn can't draw bodies. **FREE MEAT** looks at the phenomenon of passing out drunk and what can follow if this happens at a college party. **HOW TO...** is full of rather silly suggestions, including paying parking meters and ordering filet mignon at McDonalds. (M-8)

☐**FUN IN RUSSIA WITH MASTER ANARCHY #3** (25¢ & a stamp from Jeff Carvalho, 92 Heather Dr., East Hartford, CT 06118): I think there's something at least a bit contradictory when "Master Anarchy" takes a job as an emperor, but what the heck. Plenty of violence, the start of a number of plot complications, and so-so drawing come together here to spark some interest. (M-8)

GEON #3 (50¢ from 2108 15th Ave., Phenix City, AL 36867): Geon is the Protector of the Environment, but I can only tell you that because it says so on the cover of this mini, not because the plot makes any sense. The drawing is marginally acceptable, the storyline non-existent, and the sexism pretty rampant here. (M-8)

GLASS EYE COMIX #2 ($2 & Age Statement from John Williams, 104 Pleasent Pl., Lake Worth, FL 33461): A mix of comics, clippings,



and text. There's masturbation for either sex, kinky sex secrets of the Hollywood stars, and other strange stuff here. Some pages are hand-colored, at least in my copy. (S-12)

☐**GOODBYE TO THE FACTORY** (50¢ (?) from Jim Gill, 403 E. Call St. #2, Tallahassee, FL 32301): A sort of autobiographical rant from Paul Tumey, who has spent 21 months in factory work and has little to show for it besides boredom. He examines some of the roots of our crazy system and concludes by dropping out to take a long bike ride. (M-16)

GOODIES #71-73 ($1.50 & Age Statement from Jabberwocky Graphix, PO Box 166255, Irving, TX 75016): A long-running mini of drawings of busty women, mainly with little or no clothes on. Most pages are independent, though #72 does feature a full-length strip. Editor Brad Foster also provides reviews of X-rated movies. (M-20)

GORE SHRIEK #6 ($3.50 & $4 p&h from Fantaco, 21 Central Ave., Albany, NY 12210): This is the sort of thing that the Comics Code was designed to prevent: all-out gross horror comic stories. The nastiest one in here has some backwoods hicks bushwhacking a car and killing and torturing the occupants. Yuck. They also publish critical essays and ruminations about other far-underground work from the past. (S-56t)

☐**THE GRAD #1-2** ($1 from John Migliore, 17 Halam Ave., Hamilton, Ont, L8V 1Z2, CANADA): A cute little comic which has a professional format—good inking, lots of action, nifty layouts—but on closer examination is at least half padory. The Grad is a superhero/ghost born in the first issue in a scene ripped off from "Carrie". He pokes fun at getting revenge, making justice speeches, and more. Saves a few people, doesn't save a few others. A good addition to the indie comics field. (D-12)

GUBBA GUB COMICS #13-Vol. 3 #1 (30¢ & a stamp from 1204 Jenifer St. #2, Madison, WI 53703): #13 at last concludes the story of Gud, the doughy being who went from a world of fast food to one of intrigue and back. With Vol. 3 they're starting a series of self-contained stories. This one concerns rolling an enormous rock about. Mark Fearing's art makes these worth looking at even when the plots seem minimal. (D-8)

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☐**HEADCHEESE #2-3** ($1.95 from One Horse Leadworks, 110-224 St. Helen's Ave., Toronto, ONT, M6H 4A4, CANADA): Harsh, sharp angular comics with stfnal overtones. Each issue is a medley of short stories and serials, and while they don't all work for me there is still plenty of entertainment. Check out the battling interstellar spies in #3 or the fast food mayhem in #2. (S-32)

HEY, NEETERS! #5 ($1 from Mike Sagara, PO Box 1378, Belmont, CA 94002): This issue of this charming funny-animal book is subtitled "Love Stings", and no wonder. After a spat, Turbo's fiancee Lori storms out, only to return later in the arms of her boss. Well...let's just say things get a bit tense form there. Tastefully outrageous. (D-12)

THE HIGHLY UNLIKELY ADVENTURES OF MOE AND DETRITUS #8 (75¢ from David Lee Ingersoll, PO Box 15082, Santa Rosa, CA 95402): A minicomic of two curious hip dudes who keep getting in a lot of trouble. In this issue they meet up with an old buddy who's convinced that he's doing hard time in hell because of them. A bit of mindless violence, a bit of drugs, lots of fun. (M-12)

☐**HODAGS & HODADDIES #1-3** ($1 from Kevin Pyle, 285 Metropolitan #2, Brooklyn, NY 11211): Strange and deranged comics and drawings. There are tales of childhood horror here, mercenaries followed by an army of happy faces, distorted bodies and sniveling soda jerks. Don't expect too much in the way of coherent plots though. #1 featured some work from Russell Christian. #3 comes in a strange looseleaf format and includes a wonderful piece on indoor bicycle touring. Growing fast. (S-20)

☐**IRRESPONSIBLE #1** ($1.50 from Foot Comix, 2222 W. Medill, Chicago, IL 60647): A new collection of comics work with some quite amusing spots. Chief among these are the story "My Shame" featuring a young man with some rather deranged ways of dealing with the world and the back cover ad for "Commie Lite" ("Less Lenin- Tastes Great!"). Off to a good start. (D-32)

THE ITINERANT MAILMAN (Donation from Jim Conatser, 113 N. Booth St., Dubuque, IA 52001): A single sheet folded to open up bit by bit, from a micro-comic outside to a full-page inside. Jim put this one out to demonstrate that cartoonists not supported by the godless NEA could support good people. Looks a bit tongue-in-cheek to me. (S-2)

☐**JERRY #1** (50¢ & a stamp & Age Statement from John Connell, 1803 Mission St. #136, Santa Cruz, CA 95060-5296): A comic which is both pornographic and scatalogical. It concerns a brief roll in the hay between Jerry and Bonnie, a girl whose anatomy is rather unique. End with a cheap shot. Very bizarre. (MM-20)

KARNO'S KLASSICS #31 (75¢ & Age Statement from Kjartan Arnörsson, PO Box 32292, Tucson, AZ 85751): Back after a long hiatus, this is not as sexually oriented in #31 as I remember, but it will no doubt be back. Meanwhile, Savage Squirrel gives us a lesson in gun safety and Kjartan presents an autobiographical strip about his summer activities. (D-12)

KARNO'S KLASSICS SPECIAL #4 ($2 from Kjartan Arnörsson, PO Box 32292, Tucson, AZ 85751): With the title of "The Parsonavich Punchup!" this is another collaborative comics tale, involving Kjartan's characters Savage Squirrel and The Avenger in a battle with various unsavory and obscene Russian types. Whale sex, mindless mayhem, kidnapping and fast food all work into this somewhere. A trifle hard to follow without already knowing the principles, though. (S-20)

KING-CAT COMICS AND STORIES #17-19 (35¢ & a stamp from John Porcellino, 1954 Brookside Ln., Hoffman Estates, IL 60194): John's drawing isn't all that great (though I suppose you could make the argument that it is some sort of minimalism) but his sense of story makes this a winner nonetheless. **KING-CAT** is a mix of true stories and dreams, though sometimes it's hard to tell until a few panels in. Join John as he loses a summer job, beats up bullies at the beach, or visits a train where strangers have sex if they talk with one another (D-12)

☐**KNUCKLES IS COMING!** ($7 from Cornelius Stone, 61 Mt. Eden Rd., Eden Tce., Auckland, NEW ZEALAND): Disgusting comics featuring Knuckles The Malevolent Nun. well, not so much disgusting as violent, sick, and disturbing. Knuckles stomps cats (including some well-known cartoon characters) wanders about with her friend the Dalek, and gets revenge against past enemies. Horrendous underground detailed cartooning style makes this a strip to linger over. (A4-40)

KROOD #3 ($4 from Russell Christian, 137 Washington Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11205): More enigmatic and sometimes scary work from one of the most original artists working in the underground today. Russell works together distorted pictures and disturbing words in collages of philosophy and humor. Looking for more work from the fringes, art movements, anti-ads, whatever. Entertaining and different. (S-32)

L'ECHO DES CHANTIERS #6 (75¢ from Kurt Beaulieu, 4230 Pierre de Coubertin #9, Montreal, QUE, CANADA): Strange minicomics from Kurt. The main character in this issue is an advertising man, but he's not very successful, and ends in disgrace. There is some abstract art and who knows what as well. A home for Kurt's spare drawings, I guess. (M-8)

LOST #2A (1 stamp from Clay Boutilier, 53 Nipigon St., Kitchener, ONT, K2B 3N2, CANADA): #2A is a preview of the full issue #2 of this zine, featuring one gory comic wherein a fisherman keeps finding bloodied corpses. There's no resolution to this, just oodles of atmosphere. (D-8)

MASQUE #1 ($1 from Hart, Lonepath Ltd., 1076 Curran St., Atlanta, GA 30318): A preview, actually, of a new comic involving a dark post-disaster world in which magic and demons are mixing with technology. It opens with a bar scene, old friends swapping obscure ghost stories and veiled references. Look promising. (S-8)

MAXWELL MADD AND HIS WRESTLING WOMEN! #2 ($2.75 from Outside Comics. PO Box 533401, Orlando, FL 32853): Max is a sort of bumbling goofball, the wrestling women are four busty babes in outrageous costumes who don't drop their professional personae off the mat, and their opponent in this issue is none other than Dracula himself. Lots of catfighting, a couple of stake-drivings, a strange inheritance and the setup for lots more wrestling stories here. Very good artwork in the service of a rather silly concept. (S-32)

MEAN STREETS #4 ($2/4 issues from Concrete Caverns Graphix, 70A Greenwich St. #186, New York, NY 10011): This is a meta-comics zine—it focuses on comics and is written by comics people, but it's still words without pictures. Topics range from censorship to trying to define just what a comic is. They also publish "Current Five" lists of recommended graphic reading from a whole batch of folks. (D-16t)

MISC! #35 (1.50 & 45¢ postage from Randy Paske, 4841 Birch Ln., Gilbert, MN 55741-9631): In the lead feature of this mini-anthology Randy and pal Bob Pfeffer team up to save the earth by judging a singing contest between William Shatner and Sid Vicious; you'll have to read it to have a chance of understanding. Later on Matt Feazell presents some space Nazis in a convoluted tale and the Quaker Oats guy snaps under the strain of kids not liking oatmeal. (M-40)

☐**MOLTEN RHAPSODY #1** (SASE from Meltdown novelties, 5699 Kanan Rd. #167, Agoura, CA 91301): A minicomic of one-panel jokes, almost any of which could have been fleshed out to a whole book of it's own. For example, "Atomic Squirrel, The Renegade Rodent" is a funny-looking sucker I'd like to know more of. There are also such bizarre things as Trump at half price and the Toile Teller for those who want to combine banking with other activities. (D-16)

MOVE OVER, IMELDA (75¢ CASH/Stamps from No Joke Publications, PO Box 50454, Austin, TX 78763-0454): "The Collected Shoes Stories of W. Geronimo Bohrer", this is a collection of comics revolving around, yes, shoes. Bohrer discusses mostly childhood shoe images, shoes he wanted and couldn't have, and ends by inventorying his current footwear. (D-16)

☐**MR. REFLECTION SAMPLER** (75¢ from Robert Blystone, RD1 Box 249, Creekside, PA 15732-9730): A collection of stick figure comics featuring characters like Doubtful Man and Boss Man. There are some single-panel jokes, but mostly this falls flat; too much crammed in to one book with too little originality. These characters may mean something to the artist, but not to the viewer. (M-8)

☐**NIGHT TYRANT #4-5** ($1 from Ultra Comics, 3296 Silsby Rd., Cleveland Hts., OH 44118): A fast-moving superhero comic set in some dystopian US future. There is plenty of gunplay and shadowy intelligence agents as well as folks in strange costumes. The plot is pretty convoluted and I regret coming in late; the art ranges from fair to good. There's also a special **NINJA DAWN** book set in Japan and picking up some of the same plot. (S-20)

☐**OUT ON A LIMBO** ($1 from Biff, 1209 Eastwood Ave., Mayfield Hts., OH 44124): A comic featuring the rather blobby character Mascaraman. Actually, it's an anthology of short adventures, which is just as well, since none of them make a great deal of sense. Such folks as Tammy Bakker, Mr. Ed, Kermit the Frog, Leatherface and Ed Koch wander through, each to get his own just rewards. (S-22)

☐**OVERLY-BUSTY NEKKID AMAZON SPACE BIMBOS #1** (75¢ & age statement from Jabberwocky Graphix, PO Box 166255, Irving, TX 75016): A minicomic coloring book of vintage 1983 Brad Foster drawings. I would think the title here is pretty self-explanatory, but just in case you have any doubt, they are busty, and close to naked, and definitely salacious. (M-8)

☐**PAPER DOLLIES** ($3 & Age statement from Randy H. Crawford, 911 Park St. SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504-6241): A collection of paper dolls of female small press characters from previous Nice Day Comix productions. They're for the most part pretty busty fantasy figures, though Big Sister and a few skinny gals are included too. The dolls are on card stock, their costumes on lighter paper for semi-transparency. (D-24)

☐**PINK SOULS** ($1.50 from Robert Michael, 46 Barn Rd., Agawam, MA 01001): A wild little microcomic chronicling the fate of a dude who gets caught up in sexual mania and brings home a love doll who is more than he can, um, chew. The drawing style seems to owe something to Peter Bagge but if anything the plot is even more gross and tacky. (MM-34)

☐**PLAYGROUND #2-3** ($1.95 from One Horse Leadworks, 110-284 St. Helen's Ave., Toronto, ONT, M6H 4A4, CANADA): A serialized murder mystery with an appealing high-contrast outline drawing style—a bit reminiscent of John Bergin's work, for those of you who know **BRAIN DEAD**. The plot proceeds by fits and starts, not exactly linearly, and cats and tense relationships seem to be important to it, though I'm not sure quite how. (S-32)

☐**PORKCHOP ROMANCE** (50¢ from CC Cilla, Anatoly Productions, PO Box 41302, Tucson, AZ 85717-1302): A strange little romance comic involving drunkenness, hallucinations, a dog hit by a car and, yes, pork chops (or maybe it's one pork chop that keeps reappearing). The plot is full of soap-opera convolutions. (D-16)

PROTOCULTURE ADDICTS #7 ($2.50 from PO Box 35, Stn. Ahuntsic, Montreal, QC, H3L 3N5, CANADA): Thought they do devote some space to other examples of Japanimation and *manga*, this is primarily a Robotech fanzine. Contents include plot summaries, art from the series, and even additional rules for the Robotech role-playing game. There is also news of the fan world and a page of contact addresses for other interested individuals and groups. (S-36t)

☐**RAINING QUILLS** Part 2 (75¢ from Starhead Comix, PO Box 30044, Seattle, WA 98103): A minicomic jam, in which five artists try to carry on the same story with a notable lack of coherence. Steve Willis starts things off with a rain of quills from dead porcupines floating through the air, and it just gets stranger from

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there. (M-12)

RAZOR #8 ($4 (?) from Cornelius Stone, 61 Mt. Eden Rd., Eden Tce., Auckland, NEW ZEALAND): Mostly comics and other story-oriented art, though some text pieces sneak in as well. Both social consciousness and the fascination with the darker side of life appear in this one, together with some almost soap-operatic comic work. Good photo-essay work too. I was amused & appalled by their excerpts from rulings of the NZ Indecent Publications Tribunal. (A4-64)

☐**RICKY REVENGE** #0 ($1 from Hit and Run, PO Box 6891, Athens, GA 30604): Ricky is a punk kid who seems to love two things: swearing and getting revenge. In this issue he beats up his cat, shows you how to get back at the laundromat if they cause you trouble, and gets someone in trouble with the law. Crude both artistically and verbally. (S-16)

ROCKHEADS #3 (35¢ & a stamp from Tony Collett, Mayhem Ltd. Grafix, Rt. 2 Box 2, Atlanta, IN 46031): A semi-stick figure comic (the characters have heads and the women have busts, but arms and legs are sticks) dealing with a struggling rock band. In this issue they try playing a gig at a cool spot to survive the heat of summer. (M-8)

ROUGH & TUMBLE #3 ($1.50 from Neil Schmidt, RD 9 Box 95, Bridgeton, NJ 08302): A thoroughly disgusting comic book, centering around the adventures of Brooze. Brooze is a lush who eats vomit soup, gets shrunken and fights with rats, and otherwise gets into adventures to revolt the reader. No redeeming value at all. (D-20)

☐**RUBBER MALLET** #1 (75¢ & a stamp from A.C. Rempt & S.F. Lossing, 260 E. Monroe St., Pomona, CA 91767): A new comic with a cool hand-screened colorful poster insert in the first issue. Most of this is pretty odd humor: a supermarket chain run by space aliens, serious consideration of the problems of having Jesus as a best friend, and an artist without enough pain in his life all appear. Fun. (D-16)

THE SANTA CRUZ COMIC NEWS #141 ($1 from PO Box 8543, Santa Cruz, CA 95061): A tabloid that is mostly made up of reprinted editorial cartoons, grouped by topics. They also publish a few just plain funny strips including *Calvin & Hobbes* and *The Far Side*. This particular issue is worth getting for the special insert, which looks at drug wars, marijuana legalization, and the many uses of hemp. (T-40t)

SCANDAL SHEET July 1990 ($12/12 issues from 7210 Jordan Ave. #A56, Canoga Park, CA 91303): A humor tabloid that reminds me a bit of the old **CRACKED** in its sense of humor and artistic style. It tries hard to be offensive and with strips like "American Gerbilo" (a tender tale of a man and his rodent) it succeeds. Merv Griffin, Donald Trump and George Bush also get their comeuppance in this issue. (T-24)

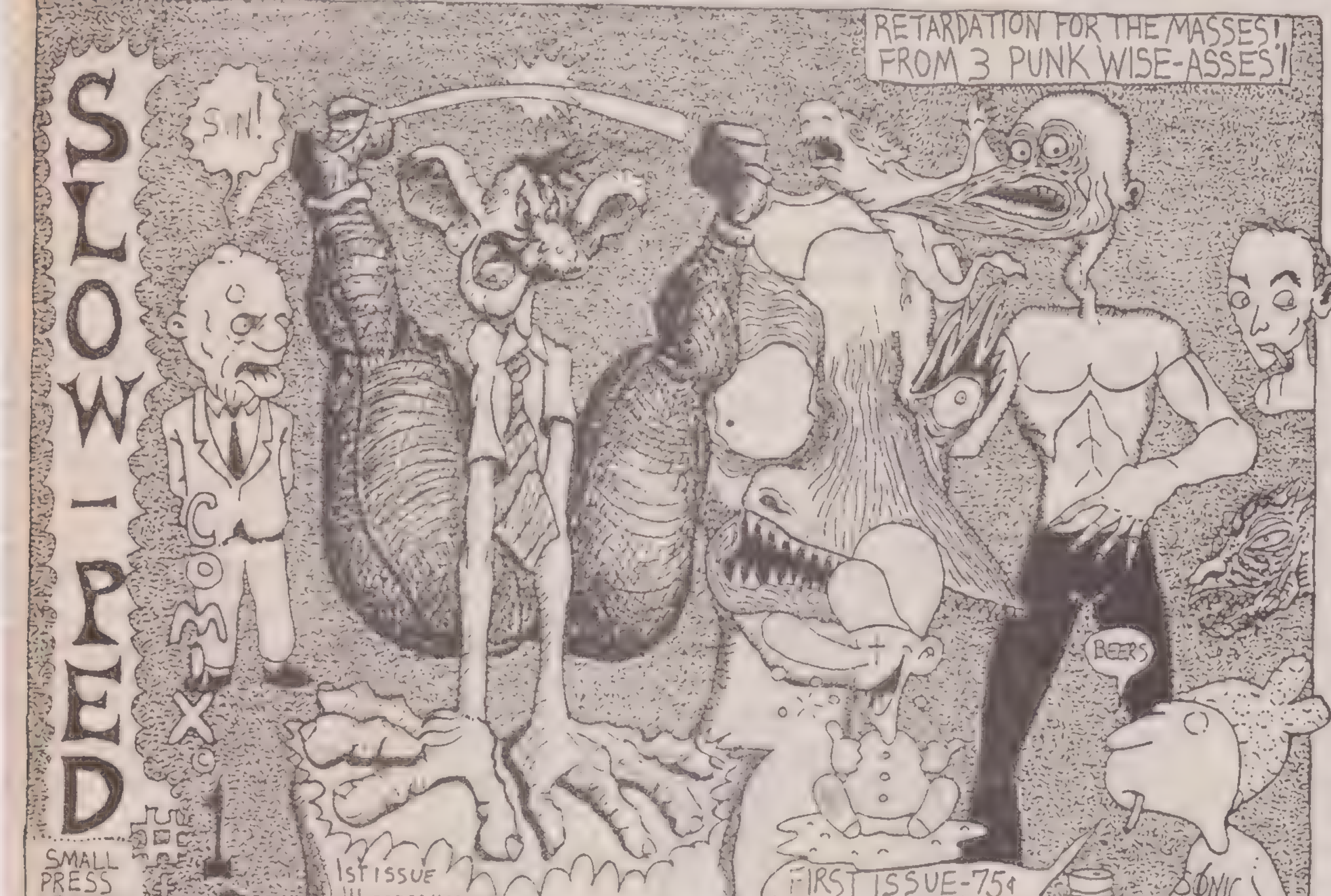
THE SHITKICKIN' KID #3 (50¢ from Greg Stomberg, 303 S. 5th St., Oregon, IL 61061): I can't say it any better than the intro here: "The Shitkickin Kid is your basic dope smoking beer drinking singing cowboy sheriff in the not too distant nuclear holocaust era". This mini features a mix of text and drawings, plus one of the Kid's songs. (M-8)

☐**SHRIEK** #1 ($4.95 & $4 s&h from Fantaco, 21 Central Ave., Albany, NY 12210): Another nasty little comic from the folks at Fantaco (including a short story as well as visual work). There is some wonderful graphic work from Olivier Morrissette, a nasty little story of precognition and self-mutilation drawn by Gary Crutchley, and an attempt to exorcise a rock and roll demon, as well as a story set in R'Lyeh. Shipping on Fantaco products is less if you order more; see the NEWS section of this FF for info on getting their catalog. (S-52)

☐**SKUZZ BUTTS** ($2 from Jeff Gillette, c/o Nullification Presentations, 1998 Huntington, Grosse Pte Woods, MI 48236) This one is pretty cool, a pro-printed comic featuring two aging dudes arguing, discussing booze, broads—and Buddhism. Great stuff, even if it is mostly talking heads. Jeff has something distinctive here, and I think it's a winner. (D-20)

SLOWPED #2 ($1.25 from 34 Spruce St., Jamestown, NY 14701): Violent abusive beer-laden comics—sure to appeal to a lot of people. The most tightly plotted strip here is one about harassing a trainee at McDonald's, to skull-splitting results. There are also some beer-drinking strips in which the panels seem to be deliberately mixed...or maybe it's just me. (S-30)

SLUTBURGER STORIES #1 ($2.50 & Age Statement from Rip Off Press, PO Box 4686, Auburn, CA 95604): Mary Fleener is back and as outrageous as ever, Oh, not every story here has to do with sex and loose women. There are other things to draw, like drugs and cats with onions stuck in their hind ends. Life in the fast lane is a lot funnier when you've got someone this talented dissecting it for you. Great distinctive artistic style too. One of the funnest, freshest indie comics I've seen in a long time. (S-32)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SMALL PRESS VIEWER #3 (50¢/yr from Lydia Brooks, 11439 A Ptarmigan Dr., Austin, TX 78758): A monthly review of small press comics from Lydia and accomplices. The reviews are short and sweet, and Lydia doesn't hesitate to dump on people who are doing a poor job or publishing politically incorrect stuff. (HL-4t)

☐**ST.INK** ($3 from P. Shaw, PO Box 234, University Sta., Syracuse, NY 13210): Nasty little comics by the likes of Drew Elliot, Roy Tompkins, and the editor. Plenty of distorted bodies, urination and masturbation, old folks being bashed over the head, little monsters, and nasty subconscious slugs here. The nineties are not shaping up to be a sweetness and light time. (M-68)

☐**TALES FROM THE CHATEAU OF DELIGHTS** ($6 & Age Statement from Jabberwocky Graphix, PO Box 166255, Irving, TX 75016): Fantastic nature-laden erotica by Kris de Roover, whose intricate line-drawing technique is rather reminiscent of the works of Aubrey Beardsley. De Roover is much more explicit, though, and everything from lesbianism to bestiality shows up here somewhere, along with straight sex. Everyone looks like they're having fun throughout. (S-32)

TBW COMIX #5 (l. 4000 from Enrico Aresu, v. Nazionale 40, 95040 Piano

Tavola, CATANIA, ITALY): A mail-art related comic using all sorts of strange material as it intercuts between strips and more self-contained pieces. It has some of the same multicolored crafted feel as **EULIPIAN**, but being in Italian is even more enigmatic to me. (A4-24)

THAT DAMN CAT #2 ($1.65 from Ogre Comics, 612 Wyndhurst Ave., Baltimore, MD 21210): Yeah, so the cat gets nuked in this issue but of course that doesn't stop him from coming back to harass his owner some more. As a backup feature there's a modern-day samurai. This one is converting to minicomic size with #3 so as to be able to come out more frequently, which is good, since it's pretty funny. (S-12)

TOASTER-MAN COMICS #4-5 (75¢ from Kurt Beaulieu, 4230 Pierre de Coubertin #9, Montreal, QUE, CANADA): A continued strange minicomic featuring a hero who is also a toaster and has at least a few powers, notably the ability to project some sort of energy field. In these two issues he tangles with a chainsaw murderer who may or may not be a member of his own family. Confusing and distorted. (M-8)

TODAY'S ANIMALS #4 ($2 & Age Statement from Tyrone McCloskey, PO Box 210107, San Francisco, CA 94121-0107): This used to be **RALSTON THE GOOSE** but it's been enlarged and reworked. This issue is sure to offend some folks due to the violence to women contained within, but there's plenty of violence to men too. The bulk of this issue is taken up with the story of a lab rat who goes berserk thanks to a new story, and it turns out that there is even a moral to it all. Wild underground comics. (S-20)

□**TOK BOMB** #1 (10fr. from J.F. Moulard, Pres Fleuris 2 Bat 2, Rue Laval, 42000 Stetienne, FRANCE): A collection of drawings and comics with French captions. The subjects seem to be mainly anarchist and anti-authoritarian. The drawing styles here owe a lot to various conventions imported from the graffiti world. (D-28)

□**TOONS FROM HELL** #1 ($1 from Scoats, 8710 Hargrave St., Philadelphia, PA 19152-2123): A comic which has a few good jokes but strictly D-level drawing—scribbling, really, on a high school level. It features "Gloveman" and "Pinky" trying to track down nefarious goings-on in the music world. (D-20)

ULTRA KLUTZ #29 ($2 from Onward Comics, PO Box 3684, Chico, CA 95927): Nicholson's huge superbeings still have me a bit confused, but I'm growing to like their interactions with earth critters and strange Japanese monsters. The story still doesn't make any sense, but the art is good and some of the jokes funny nonetheless. Creator John Nicholson will also be more than happy to sell you original art, back issues, and so on. (S-32)

□**WAITING FOR BRUNO** ($1 *cash* from Wayno, PO Box 11934, Pittsburgh, PA 15228-0934): A collaborative minicomic from Stanley and Wayno. Bruno sort of slips out of the plot half way through, to be replaced by a barhopping creature made out of hand tools who knocks back shots of WD-40. Odd. (M-12)

□**WHAT IS GOD?** (45¢ from Jeff Gillette, Nullification Presentations, 1998 Huntington, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236): A "cartoon meditation" featuring a somewhat amorphous animaloid character (vaguely reminiscent of Cerebus) searching for God. He does all the usual things—drugs, mediation, observation, investigation of the household cleaners in K-Mart—but without very good results. (M-16)

□**WHAT IS HAPPINESS?** (45¢ from Jeff Gillette, Nullification Presentations, 1998 Huntington, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236): I guess you could call this a companion to the above mini; it stars the same character. In this one, he's trying to figure out what makes him happy and how to get more of it, but comes to no strong conclusions. Rather unsettling. (M-16)

XL5 #3 (75¢ *stamps/cash* from Eric Theriault, 1289 Barré #1, Montreal, QUE, H3C 1N1, CANADA): A strange collaborative comic featuring the talents of Luc and Marc Giard in addition to Eric. A spaceship crashes on Earth, the crew go darting off in all directions...then there's the guy whose life has been ruined by miscellaneous disasters. It all looks like it should mean something, but falls apart when pressed for a plot. (D-12)

YOUR DIRTY LIL' COMIC #4 (50¢ & a stamp & Age Statement from Randy Crawford, Nice Day Comix, 911 Park St. SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504-6241): This edition features a female private eye with looks modeled on Betty Page getting it on with a male client. There's a variety of sexual acrobatics, capped off by some grisly violence. The feminists will hate this one. (M-8)

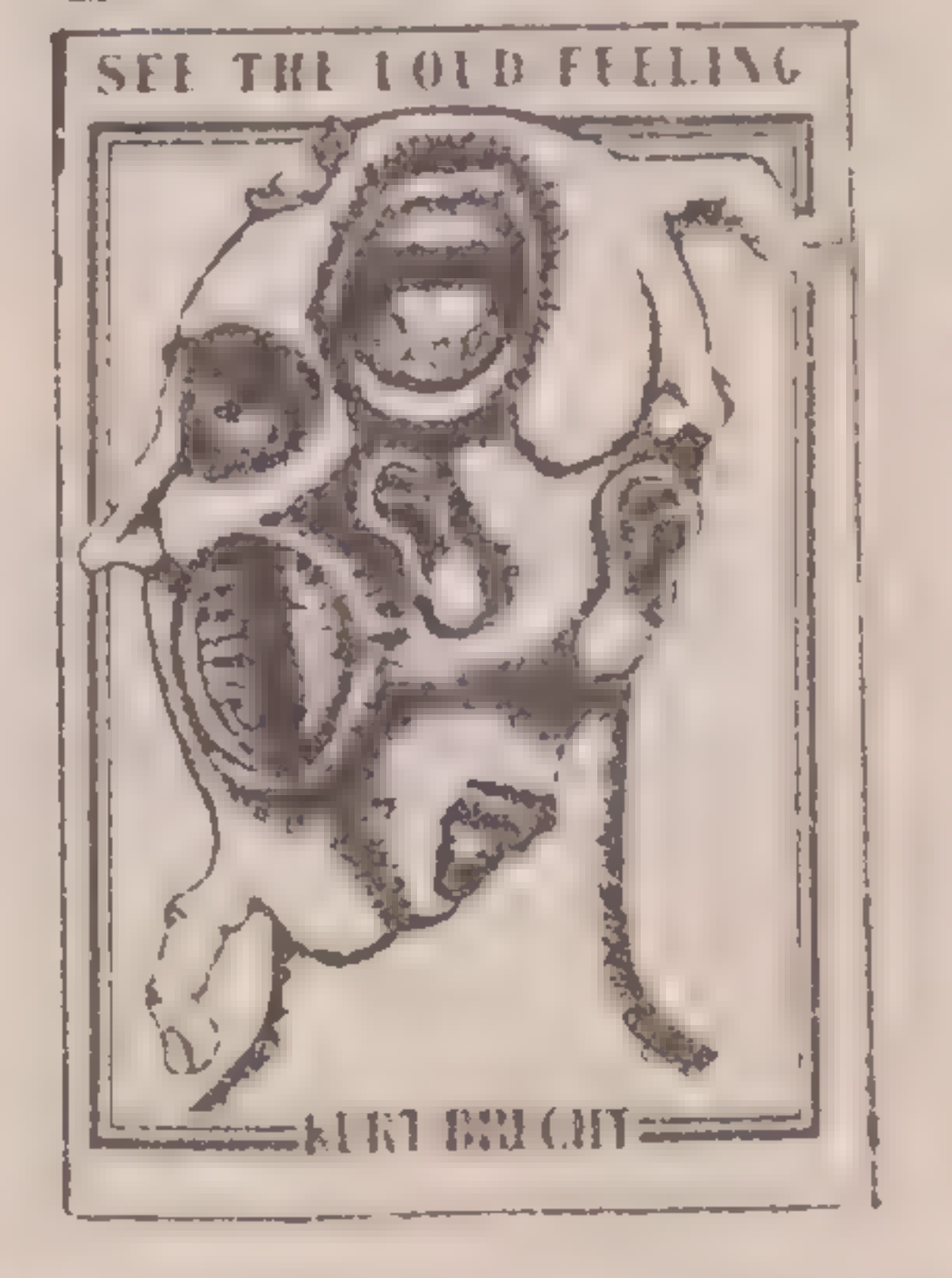
□**ZEN-ZEN SHIT** Vol. 1 #1-2 (25¢ from Martin Lemm, CP 5313, Succ. C, Montreal, Quebec, H2X 3M4, CANADA): A mixed bag of French and English minicomics. The best of the batch is "Post-Modernista", a wild trip through a life of work, television, and the refrigerator, which ultimately strips away the facades to get a the emptiness of the life described. (M-16)

ZOMBIE VOMIT #6 ($1 & Age Statement from Aardvark Farms, Box 499, Rt. 52, Holmes, NY 12531): A nasty comic/collage/text booklet. There are deranged sexual letters, zombies, razor blades, an appearance by Eel Leonard, and more. Dark, dismal and just a bit disgusting. (D-32)

ZOOMCRANKS COMICS #5 ($1 from Mark Cunningham, 1526 N. Oakley Blvd., Chicago, IL 606266): Somewhat disjointed modern primitive comics featuring a romance between a bouncer and a barmaid. The story doesn't really go anywhere, and neither does the relationship. Includes an inserted mini about the joys of motorcycle riding to blow off steam, made more curious by the fact that the rider is apparently headless. (S-14)

COMICS NOTES

- **Grinding Wheels Enterprises** is the umbrella name for the comics put out by John Porcellino. You can get his current catalog for an SASE from 1954 Brookside Ln., Hoffman Estates, IL 60194.
- **Watson Graphics** (4141 S. Indiana, Chicago, IL 60653) is back in business. You can get their current catalog, with pictures of all their books and posters, for 50¢.



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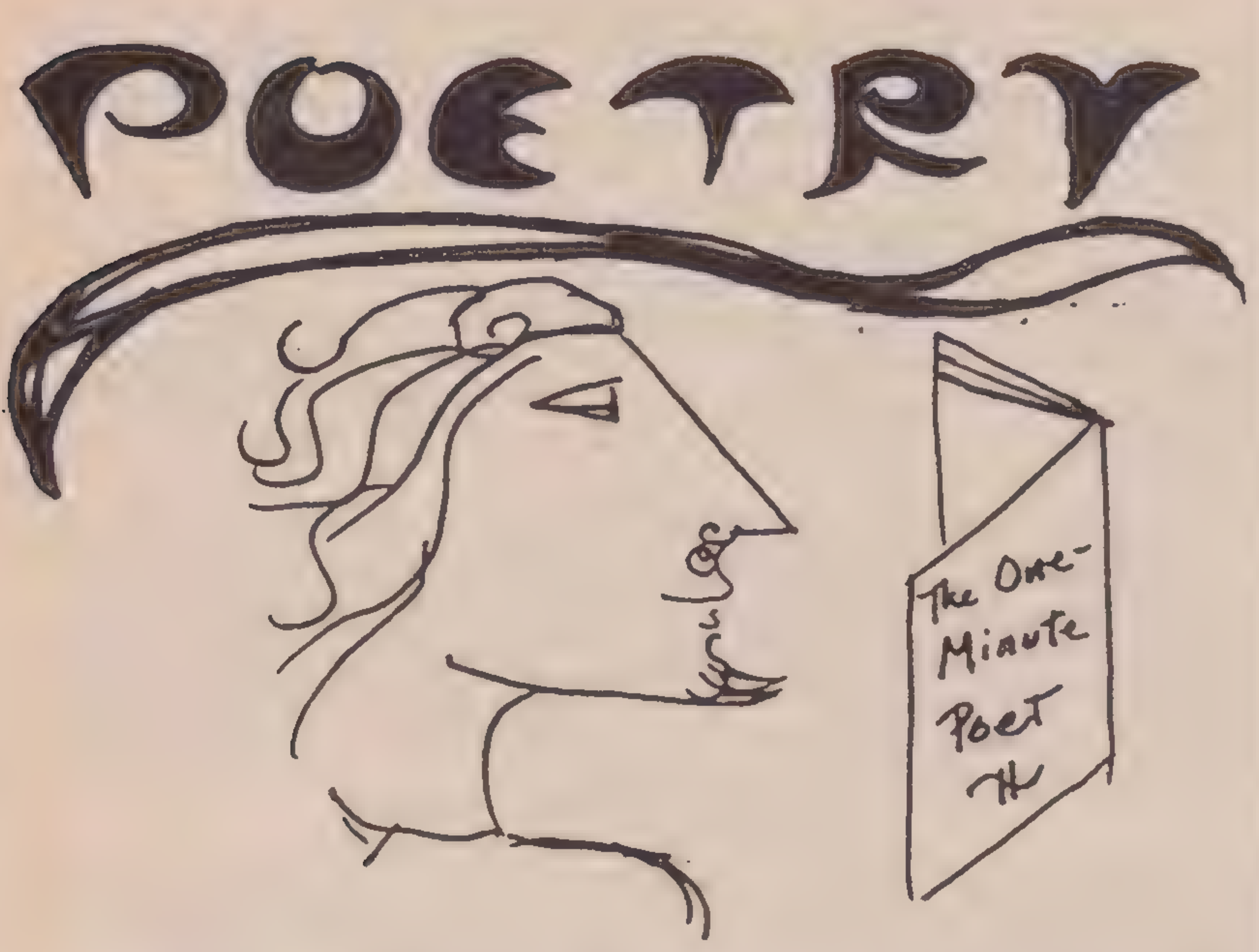

As always, poetry reviews are marked to indicate whether they were written by J Bellomo (pj) or the Æditor (MG).

★★★★★

10TH MUSE #1 (£2.50/2 issues from A.R. Jordan, 33 Hartington Rd., Newtown, So'ton, SO2 0EW, ENGLAND): This poetry mag is concentrating on topics of sex, gender, and sexuality—which does not mean entirely erotica, of course. One extended poem shines out, Katherine Abbott's "Diary of an Unrelationship"—a very poignant picture of the interactions between a woman, a man, and all the cultural stuff that gets in the way. (D-40)(MG)

★★★★★

□AFTERTHEEND #8 ($2 (?) from Greg Evason, GAPress, 275 Woolwich St. Bsmt., Guelph, ONT, N1H 3V8, CANADA): A mix of concrete and experimental poetry with their visual analogues and other pieces. There's an interview here with Guy R. Beining which is as difficult as his art is. William P. Haynes/Elliott presents a memorial poem for Sha(u)nt Basmajian, some of whose last work also appears here. (S-17)(MG)

★★★★★

Alexander Baron (ed.), **THE STORY OF BONNIE AND CLYDE** (£1.50 from 93c Venner Road, Sydenham, London SE26, ENGLAND):This is rather a curiosity. It's a new edition of Bonnie Parker's two surviving poems (the other being "The Story of Suicide Sal") edited to make them scan better by Baron. The editor also contributes an introductory essay and his own poem about the gangster couple. The latter is a bit jarring inasmuch as it uses English idiom to talk about American killers, but a good piece of work nonetheless. (S-16r)(MG)

★★★★★

Batworth, **GOOD GOING DOWN** ($2 from Shattered Wig Productions, 523 E. 38th St., Baltimore, MD 21218): The title puts me in the mind of the famous Freud to Joyce comment "You are diving but she is sinking". Batworth does appear to be mired in language, thrashing around and trying to make sense: "We are finding it difficultish to find try/no matter how far we find find..." is a typical fragment. It feels to me like these poems are straining to make sense but never quite getting there. (D-20t)(MG)

★★★★★

BELLOWING ARK Vol. 6 #3 ($2 from PO Box 45637, Seattle, Washington 98145): This poetry tabloid is of a consistently high quality. Though some may not be excited about what they publish, you must commend them for how they publish. The work is careful and well-crafted, and could easily be found someday in the liberal high school English text. The poetry and fiction blow no holes through your head, but they can certainly do a number on your stomach and your heart. (T-24)(pj)

★★★★★

Nancy Bengis-Friedman, **U-TURNS AND LOVE** ($1 *CASH/stamps* from Steve Hartman, 1610 Ave. P #6-B, Brooklyn, NY 11229): Actually, that buck will get you on the mailing list for future releases too, which is a good thing because I'm not entirely thrilled with this chapbook. "ReD StrIPes, BluE BlOcks, GrEen BaLLs" in particular is absurd eroticism of the "You fuck/like a mechanic" school, which turns me off. A quirk, I suppose, but the rest strike me as close to doggerel themselves.(HS-8)(MG)

★★★★★

Gina Bergamino, **BLACK AND BLUE HOLIDAY** ($4 from The Plowman Printing House, Box 414, Whitby, Ontario, Canada L1N 5S4): The author throws a disclaimer in with this chapbook. After TP requested money to publish this, the author asked to have the manuscript returned; mysteriously, the works appeared in print w/no further contact between author and publisher. Not to worry, this isn't worth pursuing anyway. The author has slipped from satirical to cutesy in this 2nd chapbook. "Dilemma" goes "it's tough suffering/from amnesia/and de ja vu/at the same time" and the games get even sillier, detracting from any serious or humorous intent. (D-36)(pj)

★★★★★

Gina Bergamino, **MY NAME ISN'T RICHARD BRAUTIGAN** ($3 from Ellipsis Press, 1176 East Campbell Avenue, Campbell, CA 95008): Even when these poems are written in the 1st person, the author seems more an observer to the scene. Sometimes the words chop at you, sometimes they flow fluidly through you. Satire is not foreign to Gina, such as "Our New Apartment": "You want to make love/I want to cook/so we compromise/& take a bath/in a tub of raviolis." (D-25)(pj)

★★★★★

Francesca Bongiorno, **STUFF AND NONSENSE** ($2 from Feh!, PO Box 5806, Stn. B, Montreal, QUE, H3B 4T1, CANADA): Francesca's stuff is strange, yes, but not as straightforwardly disgusting as much of the work published in **FEH!** (where some of these poems originally appeared). Oh, there's a sprinkling of toe crud and similar topios, but there are also more serious works such as "Working Girl", a fantasy revenge on the bosses of the world. (D-32t)(MG)

★★★★★

BLACK PAGE 6666 (Free from PO Box 78304, Tuscon, AZ 85703): Editor Michael Baker writes that there have been responses to this issue as if it were controversial: some refused to carry it and some who did carry it eventually tossed it out. Unfortunately, I get the feeling that it wasn't the "fuck" and "shit" that turned those people off: there just isn't anything here much worth reading. As I've urged before, recycle. (S-8)(pj)

★★★★★

Douglas Blazek, **BROKEN KNUCKLE POEMS** (from Ground Zero [see below], PO Box 160, Newbury, OH 44065): A chapbook of poems from the factory floor. These are not concerned so much with the machines as with the mentality. From "& On The Clock A Pair of Horns": "the little gadget/inside my skull/that keeps crafting/a reason for everything/stopped/& now it only/sits and twirls its cogwheels." Blazek's poetry is moving, especially if you have a proletarian heart. The only fault here is the presence of "poems" and "poetry" in his poetry. (S-40)(pj)

★★★★★

Drew Blood, **WHAT'S PAST AND PRESENT** ($2 *CASH* from D.B.P.L., 3410, First St, Riverside, CA 92501): A chapbook of introspective poems. The 1st person makes a strong presence in all of this simple, confessional-type work. "Handsome One" ends with "The only friend I've ever known/It's all so wrong/That you should die, alone and young." Such lamentations seems to be served as food for consumption by our lonely youth. (D-24)(pj)

★★★★★

Daniel F. Bradley, **GUN WORD** ($1 (?) from Philipe Grasman, 35 Park Rd., Georgetown, ONT, L7G 1Z1, CANADA): A single poem, rife with flash of urban angst images and nightmarish juxtapositions. It's in a handbound cardboard cover and looks arty. Also from the same address is CARS, by Philpe Grasman, a single piece of small cardstock with a five-word poem inside. On the boundary between poetry and wordplay. (MM-6)(MG)

★★★★★

BRAT #6 ($1 from Bob Z. c/o Sarris Bookmarketing, 125 E. 23rd St. #300, New York, NY 10010): A selection of bleak poems and rough graphics, mostly with political (or, in one or two cases, personal/political) overtones. There's an assault on personal freedom and individual liberty going on, and the writers here are not inclined to just lie back and accept it. (M-24r)(MG)

★★★★★

Randall Brock, **I AM** (75¢ from Geof Huth, 225 State St. #451, Schenectady, NY 12305): A short poem which answers the implied question of the title. It partakes of the usual careful presentation of Huth's dpqp publishing ventures, being arranged vertically and stapled to a larger vertical format card, all of which emphasizes the rhythms of the poem. A poetic placemarker. (HS-1)

★★★★★

CAMELLIA #4 ($4/yr from Tomar Inbar, PO Box 3406, Oakland, CA 94609): A poetry journal with an ephemeral slant to most of the work. There's concrete objects presented here and there, but we are led into deep thinking or dreaming. "He Doesn't" by Oberc and G.V. Catullus' venomous assault on any and all political leaders (titled "Cominius") are exceptions; both of these have the jolt associated with hitting a parked car. (D-16)(pj)

★★★★★

Rafael Carvajal and David Belt, **DOGS & THE FLOWERS THEY PISS ON** ($2 *CASH* from D.B.P.L., 3410, First St, Riverside, CA 92501): Carvajal writes poems and Belt tells stories. There's highs and lows to both, with a thread of the city's poorer underbelly running throughout. Belt's "Five Old Men, One of Them My Father." was a piercing scream. The setting is a bar with an older male crowd and young female art-school students. Somewhat of a psychological expose on our supposedly deeper beings. (D-16)(pj)

★★★★★

CAUTION! Vol. 1 #2 ($4.00 from Mauricio A. Cordero, PO Box 4694, Richmond, VA 23220): A relatively new poetry zine striving for "satire/black humor" as its trademark. It's certainly fun at times. There's many interesting sketches and playful poems. The general audience I can't guess, but it would seem great therapy for poetry editors/publishers—you know, a break for those people that sometimes think all of this really matters. (S-48)(pj)

★★★★★

Anthony G. Chianese, **TONGUE AND VISION** ($2 from Dreadnought Earth Press, 634 Manhattan Ave. #3, Brooklyn, NY 11222): Poetry presented without frills, which is OK, since the intricate rhythms of Chianese's work do just fine to drag the reader on by themselves. These are city poems, poems of people trying to survive in an age that is increasingly one of the machine. (L-8)

★★★★★

CITY RANT #2 ($1 From McOne USA, PO Box 50174, Austin, TX 78763): More confession than poetry. Sometimes so much so that it's hard to distinguish poem/story from letter. "Snow" by R. Wilmarth was well crafted: "state roads don't like to be filled with it/But oak trees pleasure in its wearing/my car is old/& i need to do the laundry." (D-28)(pj)

★★★★★

Voz Da Fronz & Oscar Alaska, **THE CHILD IS FARTHER THAN THE MAN** ($2 from Voz Da Fronz, 202 6th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94118): The odd poems are by Voz and the even ones are by Oscar, which I think is a reference to page numbers though it's annoyingly unclear. The authors have a similar style: simplistic language with little regard to form, save for the awkward rhymes. The approach to the topics is rather adolescent, frequently self-serving. For the authors' friends. (D-32)(pj)

★★★★★

THE DEATH WE ALL KNOW (SASE (?) from PO Box 47, Youngwood, PA 15697): A single poem on paper so small that I dare not even call it a broadside. The author is found naked in the john early in the morning on his 47th birthday. There's a bout with constipation and much poetic grumbling about the 80's society. Few liberal-minded people will have trouble relating to this one. (O-1)(pj)

★★★★★

DESIGNING CORPSES #1 (75¢ from Ken Wagner, PO Box 587, Olean, NY 14760): A mini of short nasty poems, with a few cartoons thrown in; they're looking for short horror fiction for the next issue as well (send submissions with an envelope and a quarter, not SASE). Much of the poetry in the first issue is from editor Terri Havens, who seems to be living on the edge of exploding. (M-24)(MG)

★★★★★

DOGFISH HEAD #2 ($1 from RFD 1 Box 350, Coopers Mills, ME 04341): A short zine of edgy poetry from young folks, most apparently high school age. Elizabeth Washburn's dark poems of hurt stand out here, little blasts of words that struggle with anomie and death but don't necessarily win. (D-16)(MG)

★★★★★

DUSTY DOG ($4 from John Pierce, PO Box 1103, Zuni, NM 87327): John announces his intention here as being to publish "quality, accessible humanistic poetry related to real life". In practice this means poems a little less experimental than the norm, and more based on memory than imagination, but certainly not tedium. Besides contributions from D. Castleman, Bill Shields, John Grey and B.Z. Niditch, there are several reprinted essays on small press topics. (S-12t)(MG)

★★★★★

John Eberly, **THE DIALOGUES** (50¢ (?) from Mad Dog Press, PO Box 47, Youngwood, PA 15697): A single page of, well, dialogues. It's questionable whether this stuff is poetry, but the alternation of "he said" "she said" in most of them give a certain beat the the whole. Meaning comes in short sharp bursts here, a sudden denouement or a question left hanging and unaswerable. An interesting experiment. (S-1)(MG)

★★★★★

John Eberly, **SHE LOVED ME LIKE** (SASE from PO Box 8312, Wichita, KS 67208): Another Mumbles broadsheet. In this one John plays around with metaphorical explorations of love, coming up with some surprising words to end the title sentence with. Seven variations in all, this has some of the feel of an exercise but if so it's one that turned out well. (S-1)(MG)

★★★★★

Sue Sanie Elkind, **ANOTHER LANGUAGE** ($8 from Papier-Mache Press, 795 Via manzana, Watsonville, CA 95076-9154): Perfect-bound collection of poetry on the subject of aging. Burkhalter-Lackey adds some striking B&W photos of elderly people. Overall the best quality is in the more depressing work. There's wrinkles and ashes and

blanco

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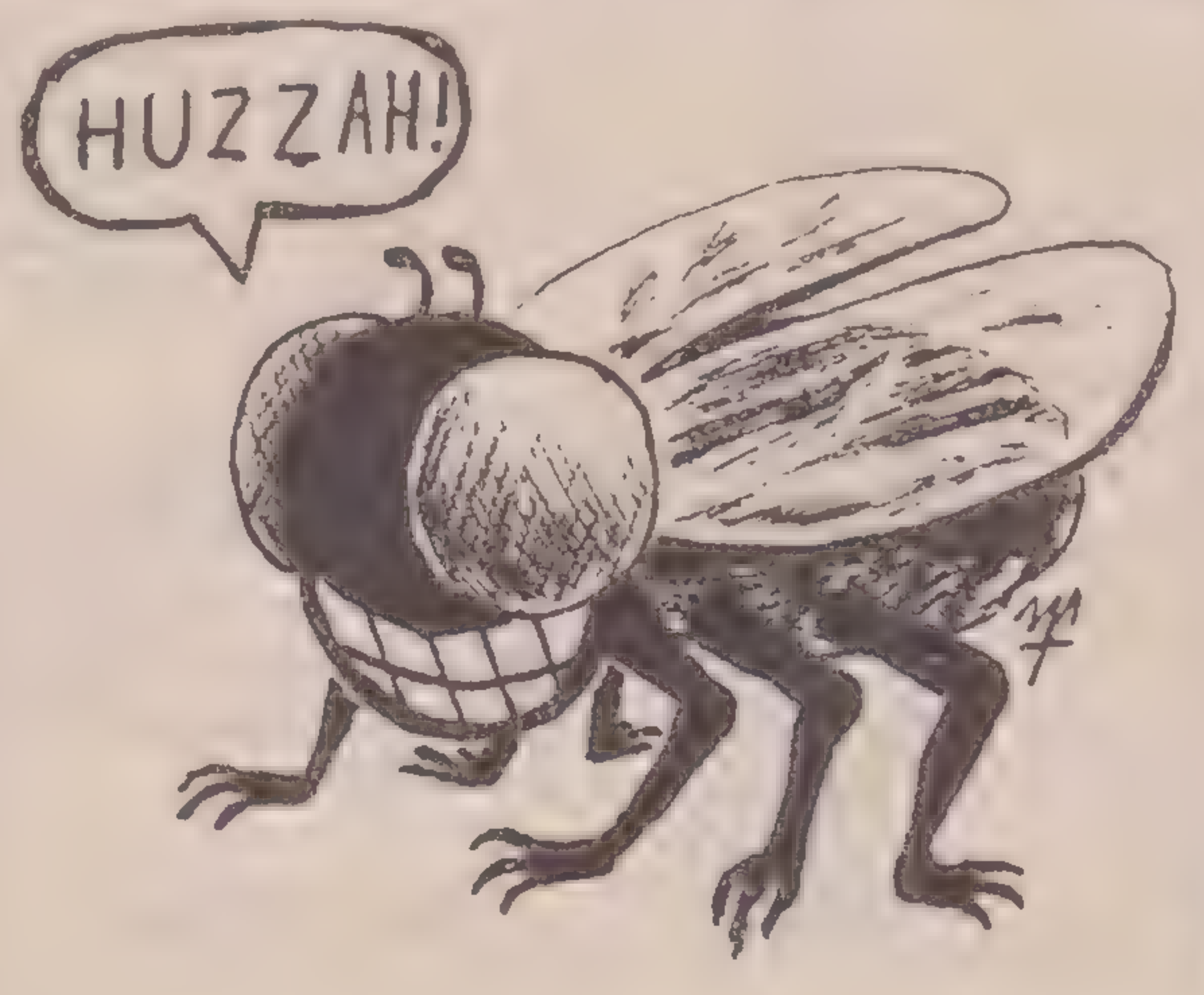

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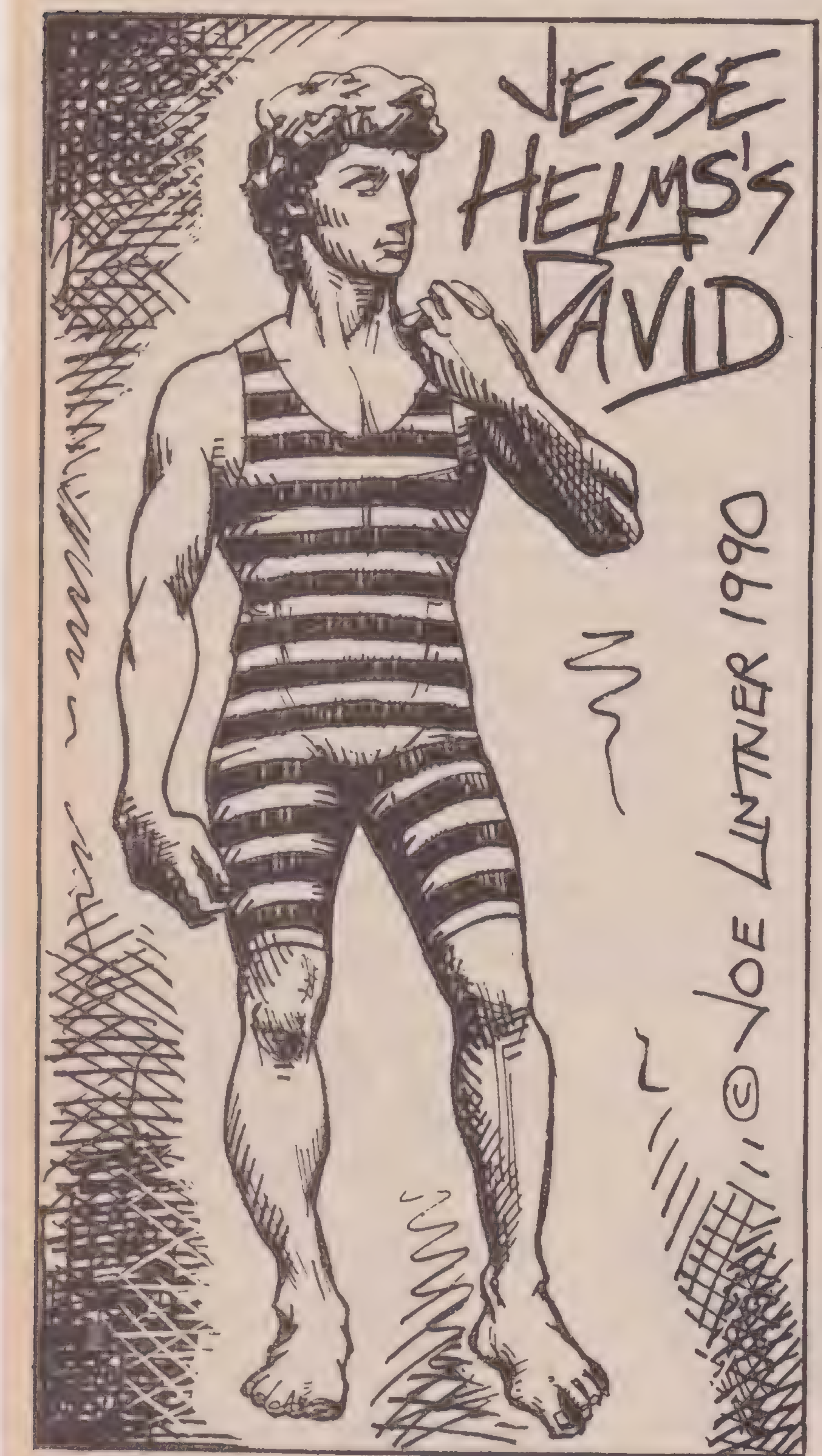
FEH! #8 ($1 from PO Box 5806, Station B, Montreal, Quebec Canada H3B 4T1): One of those poetry journals that would make the short list if you were limited to just one per year. (Or maybe this is just a knockout issue?) Some rhyme and meter, a belly full of nonsense, and many poems that approach you with the subtlety of a good five-pounder. For you sensationalists, there's numerous sex poems and an active letters section. Cheers to the editor. (HL-28)(pj)

★★★★★

FROG GONE REVIEW ($4 from Box 46308, Mt Clemens, MI 48046): The per annum publication schedule must give the editor great time to practice perfectionism. The layout is soft and warm. In general, the journal appears to embrace optimists: send the poetry that sees the beauty and feels the love. Cathy Stoessner's memories of "Auntie" are a fine example: "...her strong hands did the milking/a cat at her side, ever ready/for a well directed stream." (HL-12t)(pj)



★★★★★

John Grey, **DEVIL IN THE RIVER** ($3.50 from Ree Young, Nocturnal Publications, Rt 2 Box 357, Troy, NC 27371): This chapbook introduces a Grey that few have probably seen. These works are "dark poetry" though not fantastic as much as on the grotesque or disquieting borders of reality. For example, "Last Cigarette" recounts a winter day of ice-skating where the face of a dead man slipped by beneath the ice: a cigarette was frozen to the ice blue lips. John Borkowski adds some equally dark illustrations. (D-20)(pj)

★★★★★

GUT LEVEL HONESTY ($3.50 from Mark Hodges, PO Box 915, Muskegon, MI 49443-0915): A booklet of Christian poetry with illustrations, that tries to see the world as it is without romanticizing it. There are several anti-abortion poems, some about conversion, and a strongly sad piece from Lisa Roose-Church. 16 contributors in all, with a focused book that will do well with its intended audience. (D-42r)(MG)

★★★★★

GYPSY #14 ($8 from 10708 Gay Brewer Drive, El Paso, TX 79935): This is a special "compilation issue," which I guess accounts for the typographical changes and the various color/weight stock. Apparently, authors send in multiple copies of their work exactly as they wish it to appear, and the editor collates, binds, and ships. There are many well-known small press poets in this issue, but no one seemed to send their best stuff. The high point was Joan Payne Kincaid and her water-colored poems; and even there it was the water color more than the poems. (S-42)(pj)

★★★★★

Paul Harnik, **ELEPHANT BLUES** ($1.75 from 3418 University Pl., Baltimore, MD 21218): Paul writes slightly disjointed, words tripping over themselves poems; the cadences of too many late nights spent wondering about life. Subjects range from mass murder to cold coffee, to a letter home for more money and banana bread. The poems are presented one to a page surrounded by a collage of cultural images from the mass media. (S-9)(MG)

★★★★★

HARP STRINGS Vol. 1 #3 ($8/ish or $15/yr from Madelyn Eastlund, 310 S. Adams St., Beverly Hills, FL 32665): A poetry journal published 3 times per year. As such things go the price is a little steep, but the poems in this issue are high quality, select pieces. Sure steady voices, polished form, and interesting. However, I suspect this will appeal only to those with an affinity for contemporary romanticism. Love and death, rhyme and meter. An oddball these days. (D-32t)(pj)

★★★★★

Steven Hartman and Ken DiMaggio, **WIDGETS** ($1 (?) from S. Hartman, 1610 Avenue P Apt 6-b, Brooklyn, NY 11229): A short monolog and a few poems about the sterile, phony corporate world. This ain't no abstract condemnation. On the contrary, Hartman goes into the details of being an accountant and lying and sitting in cubicles and worrying about take-overs. DiMaggio adds a couple of poems, one about the absurdities of going-away parties. Straight forward accounts and opinions. (HL-12)(pj)

★★★★★

William P. Haynes/Elliot, **33 AT 84** ($1 (?) from Snowbound Press, PO Box 250, W. Monroe, NY 13167): Most of the poems here don't do a whole lot for me; they seem slow-paced and overly crafted. But "Kitten", a poem of child abuse revenged, stands out; in it Haynes/Elliot has put together a very sharp-edged tragedy that is as compelling as it is disquieting. (D-16)(MG)

★★★★★

Wayne Hogan, **THE 6 PROTOCOLS** ($1 *CASH* from PO Box 842, Cookeville, TN 38503): A selection of six poems from small town country life and Wayne's own illustrations. This is not a life of gingham tablecloths, though, but one of dial-a-porn, the shrinking of the world, and curses in French. A surprise in every corner. (S-2)(MG)

★★★★★

Albert Huffstickler, **QUINLEN** ($6 from Press of Circumstance, 312 E. 43 #103, Austin, TX 78751): A cycle of poems describing moments in the life of Quinlen, a struggling author. He is eternally running from something—or searching for something, which may or may not be the same thing. Huffstickler has worked hard to capture a life of quiet but noble desperation here, and I think he's succeeded. The character of Quinlen will stay with me for a long time. (S-48)(MG)

★★★★★

Albert Huffstickler, **A WEB OF LIGHT** ($1.25 from McOne Press, PO Box 50174, Austin, TX 78763): A fine chapbook of Albert's carefully-constructed poems, which tend to be longer and richer than much of what is being published today. Whether it's a chance encounter on Thanksgiving, a life without babies, or endless nights in front of the television, he captures well the poignancy of life. (M-20t)(MG)

★★★★★

KANGAROOS AND BEANS Vol. 1 #2 ($2 from PO Box 52304, Livonia, MI 48152-9998): A short collection of poems that seems to have no central theme. Dave Bock contributes a story of Vietnam burnout, while Gregg Nannini seems to be into images of quiet death. Nancy Rice has a cat on her head, though to what purpose is hard to fathom. I am afraid (nitpick warning) that the script typeface clashes with some of the ideas here as well. (D-20t)

★★★★★

Eliot Katz, **SPACE AND OTHER POEMS FOR LOVE, LAUGHS, AND SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION** ($10.95 from Northern Lights, 493 College Ave., Orono, ME 04473): A fat perfect-bound book of socially-conscious poetry. The opening epic is practically a rant, mixing everything from property ownership to drug testing to modern physics together in a long scream at an uncaring universe. Many of the other poems dwell on homelessness and the insane social system in this country. Eliot's voice is, to me, more responsible than poetic or lyrical, but the honest rhythms make his message more immediate. (D-160t)(MG)

★★★★★

Kenneally, **FRONT & OTHERS** ($1.25 *cash/stamps* from Tim Kenneally, 176 Chestnut St. #4, Albany, NY 12210): There's a couple of short stories here, including the title piece and the amusing "The Chronic Complainer in Hell", but the bulk of Kenneally's selections are poetry. He picks on frat boys, New Agers, television, poets and even God, in a distinctively sarcastic voice. I enjoyed the results. (D-22)(MG)

★★★★★

Jesse Kimball, **BROWN SLEEP** (Free if you send a poem for **DOGFISH HEAD** zine, from RFD 1 Box 350, Coopers Mills, ME 04341): A mini of Jesse's poetry backed up, for some reason, with pictures of women being used to advertise products. Jesse's poems are short bursts of insight and sensation. A dead cat, an interrupted sleep, and similar incidents and images provide the fodder. (M-8)(MG)

★★★★★

Alfred Kisubi, **STORMS: POEMS OF AZANIA** ($10 from Carl Bettis, PO Box 32631, Kansas City, MO 64111): A perfect-bound book of poems about Africa by a poet who was a native of Uganda before coming to the States. Alfred writes mostly of people, though there is some political anger in his work—the anger bred of repression. Some poems are simple bits of life, people moving on the landscape and having fun. One especially effective one takes a South African censorship decree and versifies it to chilling effect. (D-116t)(MG)

★★★★★

Charles Krich, **RIDING AROUND TRYING TO BE SCARFACE** ($1 from 183 Prospect St, Willimantic, CT 06226): The author uses the short poems in this chapbook as a vehicle to talk. Now that's not profound, but a quick reading can thrust you into conversation with paper and ink. The peculiar thing is that the poetry is kinda bad. If nothing else, the aggressive "Fortune Cookies" sayings were humorous. (D-24)(pj)

★★★★★

LAB NOTES ($5/yr from PO Box 24155, Winston-Salem, NC 27114-4155): Not sure if the publishers would consider this paper compilation a poetry journal. There is poetry, but by Rhan, Eshelman, and B. Hoffner only. Generally, the work is flat. Rhan's emotionally charged "for my mother's suicide!" is a welcome exception: "Do not hold it down brother...You must let it fall see/where exactly/the brick lands...." The authors should stick to topics that are dear to them. (HL-8)(pj)

★★★★★

Evelyn Lau, **YOU ARE NOT WHO YOU CLAIM** ($5 (?) from Press Porcépic Ltd., 4252 Commerce Cir., Victoria, BC V8Z 4M2, CANADA): A collection of poems from the author of **RUNAWAY.** There's a taut anxiety to much of this work, a poet bursting with images and feelings about a world full of hurting people. There are poems of loneliness here, poems of prostitution and drugs, of homelessness and hopelessness. But there are also the few shining epiphanies of a kind moment grabbed, a bit of hope to hold on to for the future. The work of a survivor. (D-58t)(MG)

★★★★★

D.A. Levy, **SUBURBAN MONASTERY DEATH POEM** (from Ground Zero [see below], PO Box 160, Newbury, OH 44065): As implied, this chapbook is comprised of a single long poem. This travels in many directions, with frequent return visits to East Cleveland. The raw hard words from the city are what I liked best: "garbagemen never get shot during riots/perhaps they are the real holymen/with an aura of protection/their reality—the shit in yr/bedroom wastebasket." (HL-40)

★★★★★

Elio Ligi, **DISTURBANCES** ($4.95 from BSU Bookstore, 1910 University Drive, Boise, Idaho 83725): The poems in this chapbook appear to have dripped off the pen of a snide, drunken individualist with 20/20 vision. Either a story is being told or a lesson taught, and all the while the author seems to mock you for lending an ear. The scenes can be off the street, from a singular apartment, or out of a mundane dream. It will find an honored place, or it will be kindling. (D-62)(pj)

★★★★★

LILLIPUT REVIEW #14 ($1 from D. Wentworth, 4 Huddy Avenue, Highlands, NJ 07732): A mini containing short poems, a few in haiku format. The topics wander from nature to dreams to a mystical tattoo. And then nonsense, such as "Dean Martin Sings Otello" by Ed Conti: "When the Moor hits your eye/Like a big jealous guy/Desdemona." It's bigger than its size. (MM-20)(pj)

★★★★★

LILLIPUT REVIEW #15 ($1 from D. Wentworth, 4 Huddy Ave., Highlands, NJ 07732): This issue of this smallish journal of smallish poetry highlights the work of David Chorlton. I didn't know his work before, and I'm glad to have made his acquaintance. He takes a parsimonious view of fractured evolution, coming up with wonderful imagery like "The music in stones/is from particles grinding/at their centers..." and "...lizards grow/to the size of buffalo." A quick and enjoyable read. (S-2)(MG)

★★★★★

T.D. Man (ed.), **WRONG SIDE OF THE RIVER** (2 IRCs or $1 *CASH* from 93c Venner Road, Sydenham, London SE26, ENGLAND): Though this is subtitled "Voices of Lewisham Poets" no one is credited for any particular poem, which is a bit odd. The voices here are those of the downtrodden, sometimes without hope, more often with, or at least with the fine sense of rage that sometimes substitutes for hope. "Freedom to Choose" perhaps best captures the theme here in its clipped dialogue between the monied landlord and the hopeful applicants to rent a room. (D-32r)(MG)

★★★★★

Anthony McCann, **THE 18TH CENTURY** ($1 from Melissa Jasper, PO Box 303, Durham, NH 03824): A mini containing 13 short and medium length poems. Many of the poems have this quality of travelling in unpredictable directions. The title piece is probably the best: a dream-like sequence where an old companion arrives with her husband, the Duke, and there are midget servants, a little flinging of pinecones, and some harsh words. No, nothing earth shattering here, but engaging at times. (M-16r)(pj)

★★★★★

John McElhenney, **THREE SLOW GRACES** ($1.25 from McOne Press, PO Box 50174, Austin, TX 78763): A mini-chapbook of intricately interwoven poems dealing with growing up, love and life. These are ruminations that seem to be thoroughly crafted, more concerned with tracing a network of thoughts than with telling a single story. McElhenney's voice is a complex one that repays a bit of digging. (M-16t)(MG)

★★★★★

Rick Miller, **TEARING THROUGH THE FENCE** ($1 from Ken Wagner, PO Box 587, Olean, NY 14760): Prison poetry from a strong voice who's had lots of time to refine his work. "Do Not Ask the Prisoner Why" is a commentary to those in the free world who might not be prepared for the answer. "Morsels" speaks of seeing a daughter in the visiting room and is one of the most affecting of the bunch. (D-24r)(MG)

★★★★★

Todd Moore & Dennis Gulling, **NIGHT IN THE BLOOD** ($1 (?) from 900 W. 9th St., Belvedere, IL 61008): A collection of poems noir from a pair of masters at the art. Gulling presents more developed stories, of marriages gone bad or people being killed by the Mob or sundry other nasty things. Moore's writing is in the same vein, but boiled down, concentrated, often to a single bullet or moment of pain. Not nice words, but very stylish ones. (D-16)(MG)

★★★★★

J. Moske, **LETTER FROM A POTENTIAL RECRUIT (ULTRA LEFT)** ($1 & SASE from 152 Mercer St, Jersey City, NJ 07302): An incongruous letter to a mentor that starts-off detailing the personality of this social outcast Eddy; then comes the disgusting, fatal bout with a restless canine. It then gets more bizarre, asking for the reader's total cooperation and offering only dull head pain. [Note that I think this is all intended.] Anyway, we received two other similar booklets from Moske (one co-produced w/C. Dennis) that can also be used as cranial hammers, though these had no titles. A fourth pamphlet about felines and other creatures from biology lab contains less obscure writings which begin to resemble poetry. (MM-20)(pj)

★★★★★

Edward Mycue, **PINK GARDEN/BROWN TREES** (£7.50 from Stingy Artist/Last Straw Press, 8 Chelmsford Street, Weymouth, Dorset, UK): A fine letterpress edition, with sewn binding and classy endpapers, of selected works by Mycue. In some a single sentence cascades down the page; other poems interweave imagery towards some larger picture. Mycue works in the touch of the wind and the feel of a lost thought, always seeking to get just a little bit more of the human feeling down on the page somehow. (S-24t)(MG)

★★★★★

Gregg Nannini, **THE LOST GENERATION** ($2 from PO Box 52304, Livonia, MI 48152-9998): Poems of alienation and diversion told in a clipped, economical voice. Take "The Colorless Rainbow": "She just sits in her room/all day/not talking to anyone/just arranging and rearranging things". Other poems get into motorcycling or painting, but still seem to have a sense of inner emptiness. (D-12t)(MG)

★★★★★

C.P. Neblett, **QUESTIONS OF A THUNDERING HEART** ($2 *CASH* from DBPL, 3410 First St., Riverside, CA 92501): A cool wind seems to blow through this collection of work put out by Drew Blood Press, "Your Children" captures pretty well the anomie of the modern punk "Death is remote to a TV generation/Calloused and indifferent/We cannot understand the feeble nature of the spark". (D-20)(MG)

★★★★★

Richard J. Neubauer, **NOTES FROM HOME** and **AND IN VERMONT** ($1 *CASH/Stamps* each from 3963 North Creek Rd., Palmyra, NY 14522): A pair of short collections of simple poems rooted in the poet's awareness of his surroundings. "the porch/is my Walden", he says in **NOTES FROM HOME**, and he muses both about its rightness and about the changes that will overcome it someday. (S-8)(MG)

★★★★★

R.J. Neubauer, **SITTING PRETTY** ($2 *CASH/Stamps* from 3963 North Creek Rd., Palmyra, NY 14522): A couple of dozen erotic poems assembled with pictures of women in various states of undress clipped from magazines. Neubauer's style is very sensual, capturing the feel and smell of a moment without undue intellectualizing. (D-16)(MG)

★★★★★

NEXT EXIT #16 ($3 from 92 Helen St, Kingston, Ontario Canada K7L 4P3): A journal of prosaic poetry. These works had a certain quiet about them; it was as if the editor had stole the poems from personal diaries. "Allegory" by Hilary Mellon was a mysterious, thought-provoking poem: two individuals encounter each other "at last" by the banks of a river, and the unclean waters yield some clarity. (D-28)(pj)

★★★★★

NOON BLUE APPLES #20 ($1 from Eric Wagner, 2080 E. Greenway, Temper, AZ 85282): A broadside which apparently can be depended upon to meet its production schedule; now it can't be counted-on for much creativity, but there's something to be said for consistency. Eric mutters about whatever is on his mind; sometimes in editorials, sometimes in poems, though there's scarcely a difference. He rooted for LA despite living in AZ so I'll stop now. (S-8)(pj)

★★★★★

NOON BLUE APPLES #21 ($1 from Eric Wagner, 2080 E. Greenway, Tempe, AZ 85282): A collection of poetry and short obscure prose which centers in the same sort of universe that holds the Illuminati and the Tarot—one of rich interconnections put precious little exoteric sense. With this being #21 the initiatory aspects of the writing are even more prevalent than usual, leading to lots of bizarre images but no enlightenment for those who are still on the safe side of the abyss. (S-8)(MG)

★★★★★

Greg Nosave, **THE GIRLS** (50¢ (?) from GAPress, 275 Woolwich St., Basement, Guelph, ONT, N1H 3V8, CANADA): No frills here. This poem is presented one line at a time handwritten on small sheets of paper. This does add to the suspense, as one has to turn pages to get anywhere, but ultimately the work itself is so minor as to be hardly worth it. A failed experiment. (M-8)(MG)

★★★★★

ONE PAGE (SASE (?) from Bill Shields, PO Box 47, Youngwood, PA 15697): A broadside containing 14 poems. Most of these works have a critical socio-political statement coming from the left. The poetry isn't lyrical or even memorable as poetry; but the stories linger, especially the 2 by Joan Jobe Smith about go-go dancing in a raunchy bar and a dress code at the office. (L-2)(pj)

★★★★★

Franklin W. W. Osinski, **CIGARETTE?** (from Ground Zero [see below], PO Box 160, Newbury, OH 44065): A chapbook containing 3 poems. The title poem is the best of the 3, where the author contemplates the collision, on a city street, between a submarine and a cigarette lady. Of course, the thing to do is scavenge the spilled cigarettes. In the other two poems the author takes mystical/spiritual trips through a prism and then to a temple. (M-5)(pj)

★★★★★

C.M. Owlhead, **SQUIRREL NUTKIN(G)** (50¢ from John Porcellion, 1954 Brookside Ln., Hoffman Estates, IL 60194): "C.M." stands for "Cherry-Mouth" and this is reportedly translated by John, so I don't know what the heck is going on. It says "poets" on the cover so it must be poetry, but it's extremely disjointed and told in a mix of typescript and manuscript with crude drawings. Too confusing for me. (D-16)(MG)

★★★★★

THE PAPER BAG Vol. 2 #2 ($2.50 from M. Brownstein, PO Box 268805, Chicago, IL 60626-8805): A journal of unassuming poetry. Nothing flashy, just a few graphics. The authors write about the simple emotional complexities of life: a slap on the wrist, a roll in the grass, a train ride, and Time. Jennifer Whitney's opening poem called "Math" plays with the paradox that suggests division by two always leaves something. She uses this to explore the ramifications it has for the Time in her life. A poem that sets the pace for an entire issue. (D-32)(pj)

★★★★★

PBW #6 ($2 from Richard Freeman, 130 W. Limestone, Yellow Springs, OH 45387): A computer zine for the Mac readable by MacWrite or MacWrite interpreters. Absolute hell for a reviewer because it's so freaking long. Poems galore, a chapter from a novel, diary passages, a review of the LA arts scene, a pro wrestling report, and reviews of pornographic video tapes. Sure I probably missed something, but the only people who know it have probably lost their powers of speech from over exposure to this thing. For those who don't mind reading from a CRT, give this a try. (473k)(pj)

★★★★★

PEARL #11 ($4 from 3030 E. Second St., Long Beach, CA 90803): This journal features some truly exceptional poetry, including an opening poem from Leo Mailman reflecting on his slow death from Lou Gehrig's Disease. Catherine Lynn contributes some work that cuts across Berkeley years, while Bill Shields is back with more post-Vietnam poetry. Many strong voices here, and no sappiness. (D-64t)(MG)

★★★★★

Anna Pest, **WE'RE COMING FOR YOUR TELECOM SHARES: POEMS THAT BITE BACK** (£1.50 from 93c Venner Road, Sydenham, London SE26, ENGLAND): Cynical poetry from a more or less leftist point of view—at least the anarchists come off better than the cops. A typical downbeat sample, from "Futility": "Take your degree, and if you qualify, You'll be a smart cadaver when you die". Fun when you're upset with the world anyhow. (D-44r)(MG)

★★★★★

POKED WITH STICKS III ($1.50 (?) from 3147 Douglas Rd., Toledo, OH 43606): A fine collection of contemporary poetry. Star Bowers is a major presence here, a voice I haven't heard much from before but look forward to hearing from again. Other contributors include Paul Weinman, Denise Dumars, John Bennett and Chris Winkler. Some concrete bits from folks like Jake Berry are mixed into the stew as well. (M-44r)(MG)

★★★★★

Rachelle, **CUNT POEMS** ($1.50 from 546 S. Villa Ave., Villa Park, IL 60181): "Poems" is stretching it in look (though not in feel) as these short bits of erotic writing are arranged as standard paragraphs and narrative. But Rachelle's imagery is earthy and poetic, a celebration of physical love of all sorts, and there is some more traditional poetry tacked on the end. (S-5)(MG)

★★★★★

Stuart Ross, **BUNNYBABY** ($3 from Proper Tales Press, PO Box 789, Stn. F, Toronto, ONT, M4Y 2N7, CANADA): The title poem, about "the child with the magnificent ears" sets the tone for this chapbook with its look at an accident that combines sin and science. Ross follows his muse to odd corners of the world, as with the one where the man puts an oyster in a pay phone to call Jacques Cousteau. Charmingly deranged. (D-24t)(MG)

★★★★★

RUBBER PUPPY #7 ($2 from Mr. Ed, PO Box 50454, Austin, TX 78763-0454): Well, I've put this under "zines" before, but this issue is mainly poetry, including a White Boy mini. A lot of the stuff here has an air of desperation to it—prison poems, abuse poems, people-going-nuts-under-the-pressure poems. It's filled out with bits of free speech coverage from more major news sources and a few zine reviews. A good value. (D-40t)(MG)

★★★★★

Brett Rutherford, **IN CHILL NOVEMBER** ($5 from 306 Thayer St #170, Providence, RI 02906): Fabulous, rebellious poetry. And like every good revolt, there's ample room for humor among the tragedy. "No Mausoleum, Please!" is a sarcastic but spirited rejection of the new material world, which now even attempts to make death pretty and clean: "I want to lie in the cold, cold ground...until I am the elements." Poems that breathe in fresh life. (D-32t)(pj)

★★★★★

SANGRE SANGRE ($1 from Scottie J. Cooper, 5913 3/4 Willoughby #2, LA, CA 90038): This first issue is free because editor Joel B. Cooper is trying to feel-out the market. There are graphics here and a request for more, but the main course is a series of poems about LA and Hollywood. Other than a poem by Layne Schroeder, this is written entirely by the editor. Lines from "March Pre-Dawn" exemplify the work: "Should I cough up blood and die,/Would you wipe it from my eyes?" A market for the novice. (S-6)(pj)

★★★★★

Ann Schwader, **WEREWOMAN** ($3.50 from Ree Young, Nocturnal Publications, Rt 2 Box 357, Troy, NC 27371): This chapbook is part of a special series on horror poetry. It's apparent from the start that this is directed specifically to the horror/sci-fi audience, with little to offer readers outside that realm. For those interested, the poems came replete with beasts, moons, blood, and vampires. "Blood Sisters" closes with the following lines: "Tonight we roam as victims of our trust/Still craving living warmth we never knew/Drained crimson from the veins of such as you." A B-movie, probably PG-13. (D-20)(pj)

★★★★★

Leonard Schwartz, **OBJECTS OF THOUGHT, ATTEMPTS AT SPEECH** ($2 (?) from Gnosis Press, PO Box 42, Prince Street Station, NY, NY 10012): Complex, cerebral poems with detailed attention to language. Take, for instance, opening lines from "The Pier": "In the ink blue light, the polished stones/presumably in solar motion/might merely be a mural drying." Each poem opens its own new universe; the last piece is quickly forgotten as the new density absorbs you. (D-60t)(pj)

★★★★★

SHE #4 (SASE (?) from Rabiul Hasan, PO Box 1032, Alcorn State University, Lorman, MS 39096): A small broadside of contemporary poetry. This issue features 3 poems, two from David Breeden and one from Pat Gardner. All are sketchy and airy, bits of poetry but not the sort of fully-developed work that constrains the reader into a single vision. (D-4t)(MG)

★★★★★

Michael Shores, **THE BOOK OF DAZE** ($2 from American Living Press, PO Box 901, Allston, MA 02134): A selection of collages and "automatic poetry"—more or less two views of the same sort of art, since the latter is constructed of words much as the former is of visual images. The sources for both seem to be back far in history or prehistory, with Shores recombining images from the cradles of civilization and simpler days as they get chopped up by the modern cultural machine. (D-28)(MG)

★★★★★

Tim Shepherd, **DEAD ROSES FROM A FRIEND** ($2 from Drew Blood Press, 3410 First St., Riverside, CA 92501): Sort of downbeat poetry, especially the lead poem "Dusty" for a friend killed in a car accident. There is plenty of rage encapsulated here, not only against small problems like drunk drivers but against the injustices at the base of the system. (D-24)(MG)

★★★★★

THE SOW'S EAR Vol. 2 #2 ($3 from 245 McDowell St, Bristol, TN 37620): This must be the "nurturing" issue. "Hers" by Rynn Williams, "My Mother's Recipe Box" by D.M. Wallace, "Bearing Children" by Suzanne U. Clark, and "When the Bough Breaks" by

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Judith Neva are all affectionate works about mothering and/or the hurdles of human growth. Springing from the Appalachians, this journal has an overall earthy quality; hence, writings of nature are central. (S-32)(pj)

★★★★★

Lee H. Stapp, **ROOTS OF PASSION** ($7 from Colle Canyon Press, PO Box 82145, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87198): For the most part, objects of nature concern the author in this poetry chapbook. The work is neither lyrical nor passionate—at least not in an energetic or intense sense. But the simple descriptions draw clear pictures and the author's quiet love is always evident. (D-62)(pj)

★★★★★

SWAMP ROOT #5 ($5 from Route 2 Box 1098, Hiwassee One, Jacksboro, TN 37757): A great issue. James Langlas is the featured poet. His poems reminisce about younger days. One of Langlas' unusual skills is his ability to bring a realistic sense of smell to the poem. In addition, there's B&W action photos of boxing matches (so barbaric) and a great critique of modern poetry by Louis McKee. Well worth the asking price. (D-108)(pj)

★★★★★

TAPROOT #17/18 ($5 from Burning Press, PO Box 18817, Cleveland Hts, OH 4418): A journal mixing contemporary prosaic poetry with visual poetry and graphics. "That Other August 24," one of the better efforts I've seen from Lifshin in a while, is a warm reflection on a wedding from days past. As a whole this is a bit slow; the layout raises expectations of rebellion and nastiness, but it's ultimately little more than an uncontrolable sneeze at the dinner table. (O-58)(pj)

★★★★★

TEMM #5-6 ($2 from Ken Wagner, PO Box 587, Olean, NY 14760): A pocket-sized poetry magazine with a good mix of work, generally a bit on the experimental side, though more traditional craft is not excluded Cheryl Townsend and Walt Franklin have interesting work in #5. In #6, I truly enjoyed the color imagery of Heather Tisdale-Nisbet's "S.F. Program", although I'm far from being sure about the meaning behind it. A well-rounded zine. (D-28r)

★★★★★

Cheryl Townsend & Ron Androla, **69** ($2 (?) from Zerx Press, 318 4th Ave., Salt Lake City, UT 84103): A dual chapbook, each poet writing one half with the two halves upside down to one another—I presume you get it. Townsend writes her usual short erotic bursts, practically dripping all over the page, celebrating passion that just can't wait. Androla writes on much the same topic, but brings a gritty factory presence and a bit of stepping back to look at the poet's work to it. (D-32)(MG)

★★★★★

TRAMP #8 ($3 from PO Box 1386, Columbia, SC 29202-1386): A journal of mostly poems, lightly peppered with graphics. Too many poems about poetry is one fault; there's also some inconsistency in the quality of the work. But you'll find Niditch, Phillips, and Dumars as well as a short, tragically funny piece by Paul Dilsaver about an old relationship. (D-28)(pj)

★★★★★

URBANUS #2 ($4.50 from PO Box 192561, San Francisco, CA 94119): A classy little poetry digest with some eye on contemporary form but an avoidance of ful-blown experimentalism. There seems to be a lot of fighting and death and brutality in this issue, as with B.D. Trail's "Task Force Beowulf", an epic told from the grunt's point of view. There's an interesting intricate poem from David Memmott as well as contributions from Patrick McKinnon and Lyn Lifshin (among many others). (D-32t)(MG)

★★★★★

Roberto Valenza, **RHAPSODY IN A VACUUM** ($4 from 925 14th Ave. #2, Seattle, WA 98122): Recombinant poems that draw on a recipe book and an Italian phrase book. Since Valenza does not speak Italian, that means that the rhythm and sound of these poems are often more important than the words. I'm not convinced that it was a successful experiment—the connection to the general theme of "music" seems rather loose—but it is an interesting one. (D-40)(MG)

★★★★★

Roberto Valenza, **SUN SHOWER RAINBOW SUTRA** ($3 from 925 14th Ave. #2, Seattle, WA 98122): A rather complex longpoem which weaves together elements from three cultures: the wisdom of the east, the harsh realities of oppression in the west, and the soaring hopes of poetry. Somehow the latter acts as an intermediary between the first two, enabling the poet to reconcile his ideals with the real world—or at least that's how I read it. A rich work. (S-6t)(MG)

★★★★★

Ken Wagner, **SEVENTH SON** (SASE from Ken Wagner, PO Box 587, Olean, NY 147690): A single poem in a sort of confused backwoods dialect about a life that doesn't turn out well. Flanked by kids on either side, the seventh son watches his parents lives go to hell while his own gets dragged down by neglect. (M-4)

★★★★★

Carl Watson, **CONFESSIONS OF AN ASPIRIN EATER** ($3 from Apathy Press Poets, c/o Tom DiVenti, 2924 E. Coldspring Ln., Baltimore, MD 21214): Poems of urban anomie and generally being fed up with the world. I think Watson may have discovered a sort of modern monastic discipline with his "Let's Just Get Drunk and Watch TV", a poem for those who have given up on life. (D-36t)(MG)

★★★★★

Carl Watson, **GREEN MAN** ($3 from Apathy Press Poets, c/o Tom DiVenti, 2924 E. Coldspring Ln., Baltimore, MD 21214): This seems more difficult that Watson's other book above, being a work packed densely with unusual images. Take "I do not believe that love is the same as fear/what I mean is this punctuation-gun massacre/driving drill or weed to bore". It goes on from there, but already we have love and fear near-linked and then reduced to words, a dual meaning of "bore"—and that's three lines that are representative of the packing-in of meanings throughout. (D-48t)(MG)

★★★★★

WE #13 ($2 from PO Box 1503, Santa Cruz, CA 95061): A classy sewn-binding small magazine of rather experimental poetry. Stephen Cope's "Institutions" trips quickly down the page but leaves thoughts behind; Eric Curkendall contributes a more sprawling piece of poetic cosmology. Lyn Lifshin and Stacey Sollfrey are among the other contributors. The back cover illustration of geographic doves deserves a mention as well. (D-24t)(MG)

★★★★★

Paul Weinman, **FOR WE HE BLEEDS** (A few stamps from 79 Cottage, Albany, NY 12204): "Poems of Wine Ways and the Spirit", these are written in a clipped, disjointed style that captures (at least for me) the feel of a hangover or a binge, too far gone to bother with the fine points of language. The narrator here is not so much hopeless as ambivalent about hope, just moving through the day, surviving, not thriving. Harder and more serious than Paul's more recent work, this was originally published in 1982. (D-24)(MG)

★★★★★

Paul Weinman, **MORE THAN JUST A SHADE OF PAINT** ($1 from Ken Wagner, PO Box 587, Olean, NY 14760): A chapbook of Paul's work that shows even more of his range. These are enigmatic poems of the street, looking at the people on the bottom but then bringing in strange metaphorical images. Some of the densest work I've seen yet from him, that comes together on a gestalt level to present an eerie distressing world, but one where human kindness can still make a difference. (D-22r)(MG)

★★★★★

Sigmund Weiss, **AGING VOICES FIRST SERIES** ($1.50 (?) from 11 Lancaster Pl., Stony Brook, NY 11790): A selection of poems about aging, being old, and even a few about death. Sigmund is able to both comment on those around him and maintain his own sense of wonder at the world. "I'm being more revised today than ever./Guess I'm full of cracks where live the small" he writes in one fine poem here. (D-16)(MG)

★★★★★

WHAT SHE WRITES (from Ground Zero [see below], PO Box 160, Newbury, OH 44065): A collection of poems by women from the Cleveland area. Although there's definitely some variation, the bulk of this poetry is personal stories and emotions; the topic of relationships plays a big role in these works. "Personal Story of a Woman" by Kathy Ende is kind of the archetypal piece, if you will: she seems to be waiting for a man but simultaneously fears his arrival because men can be so oppressive and she needs to find herself before finding a companion. (S-40)(pj)

★★★★★

P.D. Wilson, **MAP VISCERAL** (50¢ from Dockery, 2108 15th Ave., Phenix City, AL, 36867): A collection of short and nasty poetry. Aggressive violent sex (though not terribly graphic), threats, insane obsessive love, these are the components of Wilson's world. Not a nice place to visit. (M-8r)(MG)

★★★★★

Linda Woods, **ONE NIGHT TO DANCE IN OUR PRIME** ($5 from Alpha Beat Press, 68 Winter Avenue, Scarborough, Ontario Canada M1K 4M3): The author chose to be a "rock'n'roll poet"—one who apparently wrestles with tidal waves and dances with temperamental volcanoes as appropriate. Poe, Whitman, Thomas, and the Beats are cited as past examples. Anyhow, this chapbook is a testimony to the fact that being such a poet ain't a simple matter of choice. There are creative ideas in places, but the language and form do not deliver the punch. Further study of past rock'n'roll poets recommended. (D-60)(pj)

★★★★★

Franz Wright, **MIDNIGHT POSTSCRIPT** ($1 from Tray Full of Lab Mice Publications c/o M. Jasper, 106 D Bernard St., Chapel Hill, NC 27514): A selection of short, almost skeletal poems. There's a heavy emphasis on death and dying here, from suicide to OD to accident. Wright takes an almost resigned view of this, writing elegies for friends, somehow surviving, not especially enraged. (M-24t)(MG)

★★★★★

YOUR ELBOW #3 ($3 (?) from 2205 California St NE, Suite 204, Minneapolis, MN 55418): A poetry journal with many graphics, some seemingly scanned-in photo collages, and visual poetry. While the poetry is amusing and interesting in places, it's easy to feel like you're overdosing on desktop publishing technology. That aside, I'd point to D. Daryoush's "Overture" and Cathrine Brugioni's "Trucking" as two of the high points. (S-62)(pj)

★★★★★

Rich Yurman, **A PERFECT PAIDL he whispered/she shouted** ($7 from 2516 24th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94116): Deft autobiographical poetry recounting growing up with Jewish grandparents who spoke largely in Yiddish, on through the death of the poet's grandfather. Yurman captures the joys and arguments of two strong people living together (and the other people they interact with) in economical poems, heavily spiced with colorful imagery and language. A fine tribute. (D-62t)(MG)

★★★★★

Bob Z., **WHY IS THE FUTURE UNFOLDING SHIT?** ($1 from Jouni Waärakangas, Poste Restante, 00980 Helsinki, FINLAND): A classy production of some of Bob's dystopian poetry, together with illustrations from Joe E., Marcel Ruyters, and others. The title poem is a good one, as is "Facing Censorship"—which is what this very confrontational poetry is likely to face in many places. (M-20)(MG)

POETRY NOTES

★★★★★

•**The Fallen Chap Series** from McOne Press (PO Box 50174, Austin, TX 78763) is scheduled to include books by Lyn Lifshin and John Knoll, as well as the already-available ones from Wayne Alan Brenner and Albert Huffstickler. For $8 you can subscribe for the entire series of 8 chaps and get a discount later on the boxed set and audio edition.

★★★★★

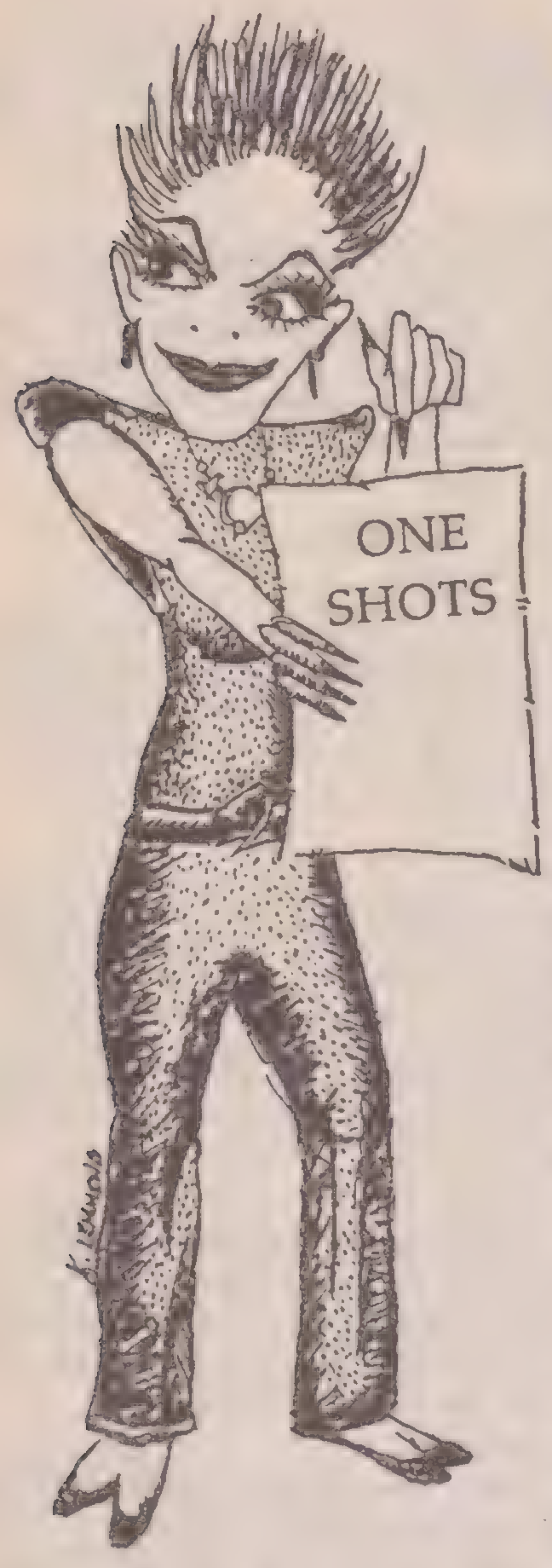
•**Ground Zero**, which has several chapbooks listed above (& will have many more reviewed in future issues of FF) has basically gotten fed up with the lack of commercial viability of small press poetry. Hence all the books they distribute are available for donations, exchanges, barter, convincing stories—they prefer human interaction, and will gleefully ignore anyone who reeks of a commercial establishment. For more information, send them an SASE for their price list and "Distribution Dilemma".

★★★★★

•**The Poetry/Rare Books Collection** at the University of Buffalo would be interested in seeing sample copies of small press poetry magazines together with a subscription form. Write to Michael Basinski, University Libraries, 420 Capen Hall, SUNY, Buffalo, NY 14260. (Thanks to Sigmund Weiss for this information).

★★★★★

•**SIDESHOW** (Glen Armstrong & Nancy Brosky, 2951 Voorheis, Pontiac, MI 48054) is planning to publish a collaborative poem made up of fragments from different authors. Send your fragments (clearly marked as such) for incorporation into the final product.



70/ **ABOUT AMATEUR JOURNALISM** (On request from Frederick J. Liddle, 404 Erie Ave., Tampa, FL 33606): A basic introduction to the **AMERICAN AMATEUR PRESS ASSOCIATION** and the world of traditional letterpress-based apas in general. There's a somewhat dated feel to this, emphasizing the joys of printing and the social opportunities, and with late 60's photos of members—but it may just feel that way to me because I'm used to more freewheeling forums. Anyhow, it's a good introduction tot he world of printing and publishing yourself. (M-8t)

★★★★★

Sal Amoniac, **FEVER JAR RAZOR BLADE** ($1 *CASH* from Mole, PO Box 6490, Winter Park, FL 32793-5490): A collection of short and sometimes rather nasty essays. Sal considers such features of modern civilization as apathy, anarchy, and the drive to just blow things up and kill people. A dispassionate examination of one particular mind's hangups. (D-16t)

★★★★★

D.S. Ashwander, **SELECTED LETTERS** ($2 from Tray Full of Lab Mice Publications c/o M. Jasper, 106 D Bernard St., Chapel Hill, NC 27514): A collection of correspondence from one of the premier kooks to have made the acquaintance of the small press. Ashwander has been making progress over the years, until these days he is a 100% omnipotent God. Despite that he still has time to write to the little people. Schizophrenia at its scariest and most amusing. (D-60t)

★★★★★

AS SOON AS YOU'RE BORN THEY MAKE YOU FEEL SMALL ($1.25 from Syndicate des Elèves, 2035 Boul. St-Laurent, Montreal, Que., H2X 2T3, CANADA): A basic look at the oppression of children. The compiler, Wendy Ayotte, looks at some of the factors that make the childhood experience what it is, from what toys teach us to the demand for "respect". She also lists places and cultures where the child/adult dichotomy was not so strong, and where younger people were treated better. Plenty of interesting threads intermingled here. (S-36)

★★★★★

Alan Barysh, **MIKE & MARYANNE MEET THE ANGEL OF DEATH, AND OTHER PARABLES AND FABLES FOR MODERN TIMES** ($3 from Apathy Press, 2924 E. Coldspring Ln., Baltimore, MD 21214): A chapbook of black humor. Barysh has a nice style, taking the cliches and myths we live by and poking them until something nasty comes crawling out. I enjoyed (if that's the right word) the final adventure of James Bond, and the little girl who takes a quite reasoned and rational approach to solving her summer problems while displaying no moral qualms at all. (D-48)

★★★★★

Hakim Bey, **CHAOS** ($2 from Verlag Golem, PO Box 3414, Providence, RI 02906): This is a new edition of Bey's seminal (in more ways than one) work on living a free life despite the machine. He demands a general untrammelling, a freeing of desires, *amour fou*, hashish, pornography, ontological anarchism and much more. The language is wonderfully poetic, especially in altered states of consciousness. This edition includes endnotes by Bob Black and Jacob Rabinowitz. (D-28t)

★★★★★

BILLY JOEL: THE FIRE, THE FACTS, AND THE STORY ($5 from Basic Choices, 730 W. Jefferson #1, Springfield, IL 62702): An analysis of Billy Joel's song "We Didn't Start the Fire" from the viewpoint of adult education. John Ohliger annotates all the people, places and events mentioned in the song, and presents a bibliography of critical opinion on its use and misuse, as well as adult education in general. (S-30)

★★★★★

Bruce Boston, **AFTER MAGIC** ($5 from The Eotu Group, 1810 W. State #115, Boise, ID 83702): A strange and fantastic short story by Boston with illustrations from Lari Davidson. Set in Britain and elsewhere around the turn of the century, it draws together an unlikely magician, an irregular medium, and an eastern holy man into a confusing adventure. Nothing real heavy here, just fun reading well written. And with Boston a rising star, it's worth picking up. (D-56t)

★★★★★

Grace Braun, **2 TO** and **THE DAMNATION OF FRITZ** ($1 each from 316 Parkovash Ave., South Bend, IN 46617): The first two of a series of cartoon booklets being published under the general title of "Golden Book". **2 TO** features line drawings of people in bed, baloons bursting and escaping, and images of freedom and wistfulness. More poetic than straightforward but decidedly interesting. **DAMNATION OF FRITZ** is a crazy story with television, guitar chords, war and lyrics for the obsessed. (D-12)

★★★★★

Wayne Alan Brenner, **ALPHABET NOIR** ($1.25 from McOne Press, PO Box 50174, Austin, TX 78763): #3 in the Fallen Chap series from McOne, this is a series of paragraphs from "A is for Ambergris" to "Z is for Zimbabwe", each exploring one facet of the life of the writer's lover Sylvia. Twenty-six entries proves to be enough to put together a quite comprehensive many-faceted picture of an interesting lady with a few strange quirks, and Wayne's prose is crafted enough to make for good reading even in a book with no plot. (M-20t)

★★★★★

Gary Brostek, **REBUTTAL TO THE WHOLE WIDE HUMAN RACE** ($1.25 from 3730 N. Oracle Rd. #36, Tucson, AZ 85705): An open letter to federal Drug Czar Bill Bennett, from a man who feels unjustly deprived of his coca leaves. It's a bit frightening in its high level of paranoid-sounding non sequitirs. The ending line is "W.J., I doubt that you are a real Romanov." (S-2)

★★★★★

Bruce W. Cain, **R.D.L.E.R.: THE ONLY REAL SOLUTION TO THE DRUG WAR** ($2 from PO Box 419, Dearborn Heights, MI 48127): A paper arguing for "Regulated Drug Legalization, Education and Rehabilitation". The basic idea is to take the profit out of selling drugs, which improves the economy, cuts down on crime, and gives us as a society the resources to treat addicts. (S-7t)

★★★★★

CAN OF WORMS ($6 *MO Only* from PO Box 1733, Colma, CA 94014-0733): I guess this is a one-shot, though it's not exactly clear about intentions for the future. Mostly this is a reprint from AsH HiT #8 of a roundtable discussion on punk lyrics and sexism, lavishly illustrated with stills from films on and beyond the edge. There's also a superhero comic and a snippet of poetry. Some interesting stuff here, but typeset with so much white space on the page that it feels lightweight. (S-128t)

★★★★★

David Castleman, **ON CAPITAL PUNISHMENT** (SASE "and one nickel" from Ken Wagner, PO Box 587, Olean, NY 14760): A rather restrained pro-capital punishment argument which suggests that the health of the species is paramount and that sometimes this may require a little killing. But Castleman also recognizes that he is not infallible, and that others in the future may look back on our morals and laugh or be disgusted. (HL-4r)

★★★★★

COLORING IN PEACETIME ($4 & Age Statement from Charles Bernstein c/o PROTEST, PO Box 5008, Evanston, IL 60204-5008): "A coloring book for adults" that even comes with a free crayon. Actually, most of the pictures here are very peaceful and happy, but a few (like the one from Daniel Johnston) are disturbing and the page by GG Allin is downright obscene. Contributors include Karl Anderson, Ace Backwords, Joe Genero and Stewart Brodian. (S-20)

★★★★★

Jim Dapkus, **MODELING: GETTING STARTED** ($2 (?) from Route 1 Box 247, Westfield, WI 53964): A basic introduction to what you need to do to get started in a modeling career. Being a photographer himself, Jim emphasizes the photographic aspects of getting ready, but touches on other things as well. Mostly aimed at young women. Includes a bibliography and a list of modeling agencies in Wisconsin. (D-20)

★★★★★

Beverly Daurio, **HIS DOGS** (Underwhich Editions, Box 262, Adelaide St. Stn., Toronto, ONT, CANADA): This is a classy but perplexing chapbook. The basic plot revolves around Esorr, and his three dogs, who he is feeling compelled to shoot. The booklet explores the roots of this compulsion, in carefully crafted prose, but the form is so open as to leave the conclusion up to the reader. (HS-16t)

★★★★★

LeGrand E. Day, **A NEW DIMENSION OF FREEDOM** ($5 (?) from PO Box 2108, Reseda, CA 91337-2108): An explanation of Day's theory of Multigovernment, together with several ways of presenting it, from straightforward to historical to fictional. The basic idea is what others have called Panarchy, the idea that beyond the basics governments ought to compete for citizens, and that different governments could co-exist in the same area. I think it's a sensible idea, though one that I see little hope of adapting soon. (D-49t)

★★★★★

Denise Dee, **IMAGINARY GRACE** ($1 from 636 Hyde #101, San Francisco, CA 94109): Another chapbook of very personal writing from Denise. This issue melds together dreams, travel, relatives in Poland and a miscarriage, among other ingredients. Denise seems to be writing on a deeper level these days than I remember, exploring more feelings as well as simply recounting stories of other people and places. I continue to be very impressed with her writing, and recommend you send a few bucks for this and some of her other booklets. (D-20t)

★★★★★

X. Sharks DeSpot, **THIS IS THE HOT WIRE CITY AREA** (Free from 2225 Montego Dr., Lansing, MI 48912): DeSpot has turned out so much strange writing that by now I don't know whether to trust anything from his pen. This one is about Serling County, Satanism, bribing the police, stealing cars, and pizzas, among other things. This may be a true conspiracy story...or another elaborate hoax. (S-8)

★★★★★

Sam Dolgoff, **THE AMERICAN LABOR MOVEMENT: A NEW BEGINNING** ($5 from Libertarian Labor Review, PO Box 2824, Champaign, IL 61825): A revised second edition of Dolgoff's essays on the dismal state of the labor movement in this country. He comes down hard on the "business unions", distinct from the rank and file, and argues that the only way to go is with independent revolutionary syndicalism on the model of the IWW. Some of the labor history here is tough going without a scorecard, and some of us find unionism to be irrelevant, but those are minor complaints that should not stand in the way of enjoying a well-done overview. (D-67t)

★★★★★

Tim Donovan, **ROLE OF THE MIDEAST IN REVERSING CURRENT VALUES AND INSTITUTIONS** ($1 (?) from 7 Ashland, Manchester, CT 06040): Another of Tim's speculative future histories, riding the same hobbyhorse as his other works. He proposes an Arab-Israeli war that will disenchant people who currently support people, throw the politicians out of power, and lead to the rise of a new (& acceptable) fascism in the US. (S-6)

★★★★★

Deborah A. Duchon, **MAGICAL PLANTS FOR PURELY PRACTICAL PURPOSES** ($2.50 from 4 Carlisle Way NE, Atlanta, GA 30308): A basic rundown of the properties attached to various wild plants by a bunch of different cultures. It's in the form of a simple listing, telling you, for example, that milkweed "grown in the garden...will encourage the presence of elves and fairies". A few references are given at the end. (D-13t)

★★★★★

Greg Evason, **ESSAY NO. 1** ($1 (?) from GAPress, 275 Woolwich St. Bsmt., Guelph, ONT, N1H 3V8, CANADA): A collection of aphorisms and short paragraphs interspersed with peculiarly-cropped photographs. The overall effect seems to be directed towards calling the value of art and intellectual activity into question. Progress too comes in for a few slams. Pretty cynical about life. (S-8)

★★★★★

Greg Evason, **SHE WALKED DOWN THE STREET** ($1 (?) from GAPress, 275 Woolwich St. Bsmt., Guelph, ONT, N1H 3V8, CANADA): This one is too experimental for me, I guess. It looks like a bunch of scrap paper—computer printouts, ads, whatever, that Greg has doodled and typed on. Yet I am sure there is meaning to be teased out of it by those who are good at that sort of thing. An enigma. (S-16)

★★★★★

Dr. Juliet Funt, **CLASSICAL PLAGIARISM** ($1 from Brad Russell & Seth Tisue, PO Box 1083, Wheaton, IL 60189): A text on plagiarism in antiquity, itself apparently plagiarized from some more academic work. Here it is dressed up with notes in foreign alphabets, collages, and xerographic manipulation. (M-40)

★★★★★

GALLERY X: RETROSPECT/IN PROGRESS ($1.50 from Peter Petrisko, Jr., PO Box 56942, Phoenix, AZ 85079): Gallery X is an alternative art and performance space in Phoenix, and this slick little number chronicles some of its activities of the past year. Featured performers include Nick Zedd, Debbie Jaffe, and ND magazine's Daniel Plunkett. Also includes a couple of interesting tattoo photos. (S-6t)

★★★★★

Rich Gold, **MUSIC FROM FICTIONAL CULTURES #1** ($1.50 from Rich Gold, 815 N. Gardner St., Los Angeles, CA 90046): This is a set of instructions for interactive feedback-based musical quartets. For example, the first piece involves Filters, modulators, and loudspeakers in a ring, with each player altering the total sound interactively. I'd be interested in hearing the results of some of these experiments if they're ever carried out. (D-16)

★★★★★

HANDY SOCIAL DECODER (2 stamps from Social Fever, PO Box 4721, Berkeley, CA 94704): An imitation Berkeley Public Library pamphlet which contains suggested readings for a host of terms common in policial and social analysis, plus Bay Area personalities. For example, "addiction" can be translated to "excuse", "conceptual artist" to "bullshit artist" and "Revolutionary Worker" to "Revolutionary Wanker". Pretty funny if you're deep enough into leftist politics to get the jokes. (D-6t)

★★★★★

HATEFUCK MANIFESTO ($1 *CASH* from Boxholder, PO Box 750, Dracut, MA 01826): A cutup text composed from ten books

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(including **THE ILLUMINOIDS** and **ORIGIN OF THE SPECIES**) guided by numbers taken from the New York Stock Exchange tables. It's as confusing as it sounds, and if it starts to make sense to you, perhaps you should be smoking a bit less dope. (S-6)

★★★★★

Wayne Hogan, **UNAUTHORIZED GUIDE AND PHILOSOPHICAL INSIGHTS TO COOKEVILLE, TENNESSEE** ($1 *CASH* from PO Box 842, Cookeville, TN 38503): I don't know that I can describe this any better than the title does, which is a severe problem. Cookeville is buried in there somewhere, but there are parking meters, Marx's economic interpretation of history, and the road from Japan also. A prose poem with drawings. (S-2)

★★★★★

Geof Huth, **THE RUSSIAN BOOK OF THE** ($1 from Geof Huth, 225 State St. #451, Schenectady, NY 12305): A blank book with a variety of paper stocks used for the pages and the title rubber-stamped on the front cover. The last page explains all, explaining that Russian has no word for "the". (D-28)

★★★★★

IMAGES OF THE GOD ($3.50 [no trades] from Phyllis Gilman, PO Box 115, Hawleyville, CT 06440): A collection of pagan writings on the subject of the male half of the Deity. These range from silliness to serious ritual, examinations of how to contact the God energy to ideas on using it in your life. The authors draw on an eclectic mix of traditions and most everyone will find something new here. (D-52r)

★★★★★

IT'S YOUR HAIR (50¢ (?) from Ziggurat, PO Box 25193, Rochester, NY 146525): This has the look of a religious tract, but instead of talking about Satan it seriously assures us that "HAIR IS HELL AND HELL IS HAIR!" Hand a few of these out at the local supermarket and then make a break for it before the outraged churchgoers burn you at the stake. (MM-6t)

★★★★★

JOHN LENNON: THE UNRELEASED MUSIC (50¢ (?) from Greg Stomberg, 303 S. 5th St., Oregon, IL 61061): Based on a program from Westwood One radio, this mini looks at the songs that John Lennon was working on at the time of his death. Each is summarized in a couple of lines. The author promises to look at other unreleased Lennon tapes in the future. (M-8)

★★★★★

Norman Jope, **ANTENNAE**($2 from Norman Jope, Flat 10 Sinclair Court, Park Road, Moseley, Birmingham B13 8AH, UK): A collection of aphorisms and witticisms from the creator of **MEMES** magazine. A sample: "I live in time, not money. I might value the latter more...if I lived otherwise" and "Me? I'd rather develop a messiah-complex" than yet another shopping complex." (D-12r)

★★★★★

Norman Jope, **WHO ATE THE BLOODY BAKERY?** ($2 from Norman Jope, Flat 10 Sinclair Court, Park Road, Moseley, Birmingham B13 8AH, UK): A triplet of unconnected essays in radical politics. In "The Jampot Empties", Norman attempts to reconcile Situationism with the current ecological movement. "One And All" is a look at the importance of empathy in liberating us, while "Political Alchemy" proposes yet another alternative to the traditional left-right political spectrum (a favorite pastime of those of us in fringe politics). Readable and interesting. (D-20r)

★★★★★

Elissa Joy, **THE LIPOSUCTIONED CORPSE** ($2 (?) from Maga, PO Box 6704, Stn. A, Toronto, ONT, M5W 1X5, CANADA): Strange and bent love and romance stories, wrapped in a color photocopy cover and with bits of color and paste-ins inside. Divorce, romance in real life, obsession, pregnancy fears; Elissa has put together a verbal collage of much of the junk that surrounds the simplicity of love itself. A disturbing work. (M-16t)

★★★★★

Frank Key, **THE IMMENSE DUCKPOND PAMPHLET** (£1.50 from Malice Aforethought Press, 328 Brettenham Road, London E17 5AU, ENGLAND): More bizarre prose from the fevered mind of Frank Key. This is sort of a murder mystery, replete with an ogre who proves to be a detective, soup recipes, signs from bizarre pubs, potato science, and even duckponds. Frank has a style all his own, which most of us could not approach even with the use of large quantities of illicit drugs. (D-32t)

★★★★★

David Keyes, **MORE SONGS ABOUT VAMPIRES, FLOWERS AND JOAN OF ARC** ($4.50 from Utility Grade, 22-196 Eglinton Ave. E, Toronto, ONT, M4P 1K2, CANADA): A "picture book" of dark and disturbing import with stark and careful graphics that remind me a bit of the work of John Bergin. The plot, such as it is, concerns a mysterious young vampire, a new death, and the images and events which follow. (D-20t)

★★★★★

LINES ($1 from Wendy S. Duke, Dumpster Press, PO Box 80083, Akron, OH 44308): A collection of poetry by Jonathan Levant with drawings by Wendy Duke. Both are rather surreal, the drawings perhaps just a bit more so than the poetry, A lot of the work explores love and relationships, but other bits are wild cards. A challenging mix. (D-24)

★★★★★

MACHINE GUN WIELDING ZEBRA FROM HELL EPISODE TWO ($1 (?) from X. Sharks DeSpot, 2225 Montego Dr., Lansing, MI 48912): Another disjointed bit of drama from one of the prime purveyors of counterfeit Gemstone files out there. This detective story features Martin Bormann, talking dogs, and even a character named Mike Gunderloy who, however, seems to have no relation to me. (S-12)

★★★★★

Albert J. Manachino, **DARK BIBLE** ($2.25 from Michael Ambrose, PO Box 4201, Austin, TX 78765-4201): A reprint of one of Al's Willie Button stories. Button is a thief who has come into possession of the Devil's Bible and is scheming to get rid of it; in this story, he tries to sell it to a somewhat decrepit book collector. A very atmospheric piece. (M-6t)

★★★★★

Maphis (ed.), **THIRD ANNUAL DIRECTORY TO CANADIAN PAGAN RESOURCES** ($3 from Pagans for Peace, PO Box 86134, North Vancouver, BC, V7L 4J5, CANADA): The title here is pretty self-explanatory. They focus exclusively on groups, stores and other pagan contacts in Canada, and the entries are arranged in postal code order to make networking easier. They're pretty down on New Agers but list a bunch of them anyhow. (D-40r)

★★★★★

David McCord, **MORE LINES ON PAPER** ($4 from PO Box 13252, Berkeley, CA 94701): I have grown to rather appreciate McCord's writing. He explores some of the darker parts of life—fear, despair, resistance, suicide, drugs—and tries to make them understandable. These downbeat stories are mixed with some humor, as in the short "The Advantages of Having Four Arms". One of the best chapbooks I've seen lately. (D-80)

★★★★★

THE MIB PAPERS ($1 *CASH* from Obscure Research Labs, PO Box 15266, Santa Rosa, CA 95401): A speech given by one of the Men In Black, obtained through the "Freedom from Information Act" and heavily censored—or so it claims. Annotations by B.T. Elder seem perfectly serious, but I can't help thinking this is a put-on. It'll probably pop up in saucer periodicals all over soon. (D-8t)

★★★★★

R. Miller, **ACID DAZE (1975-1986)** ($3 from 54 Huntly Cir., Dover, DE 19901): A memoir of ten years in the life of an acidhead, from good drug trips to bad ones, close friends to treacherous psychiatrists, religious experiences to incarcerations in locked wards. Miller consumed quite a bit—think of Hunter Thompson without the violence—but apparently pulled through it all right. Lots of good memories here, and the tone comes across well. I enjoyed this account, which avoids both idolizing drugs and decrying them as demons. (S-60)

★★★★★

Flint Mitchell, **"THIS IS NOT A CHAIN LETTER"** ($9 from 7331 Terri Robyn Dr., St. Louis, MO 63129-5233): Flint has been investigating chain letters of all types for a few years now. He's looked into everything from get rich quick schemes to "Kiss Someone you love and Make Magic" to alternative zine letters. He's even contacted some of the people whose names appear to find out how well they did. The results, not surprisingly, are that chain letters are an across the board ripoff. There are dozens of amazing examples of human hope and stupidity here, and it makes for entertaining (if somewhat pathetic) reading. (D-100r)

★★★★★

MONDAY EVENING (£5 to join the Ryder Book Club plus £7 for the booklet from Ryder Publishing, BCM Box 3406, London Wc1N 3XX, ENGLAND): File this one under "turnabout is fair play". Unlike many of the Ryder series of books about domination and submissiveness, here it's the women who come out on top. Amy and Helga are employees of a particularly bad manager, until they show up in his office one night and proceed to humiliate him utterly. This develops into a long-term relationship, with unexpected results. Fantasy of the sort not often found anywhere. (D-43)

★★★★★

Mychele, **POOL SIDE** and **DOING DISHES** ($1 for PS and $3 for DD from PO Box 1892, Tempe, AZ 85280-1892): A pair of erotic short stories put out as separate pamphlets. **POOL SIDE** is a short solo adventure written as a young woman discovers the water jets in her pool. **DOING DISHES** is longer, hotter and involves hot sex in a kitchen setting, with some light but obviously consensual bondage. (D-4t/D-8t)

★★★★★

Richard J. Neubauer, **IN PASSING** ($1 *CASH* & 2 stamps from 3963 North Creek Rd., Palmyra, NY 14522): A short story centered on a week or so in the life of a nursing home attendant. Neubauer jumps back and forth from the present to history, from the job to Dispaugh's home life. The ending is a real tearjerker, carried off well, and the whole seems quite realistic. (S-13)

★★★★★

Richard J. Neubauer, **REDIRECTIONS** ($1 *CASH/stamps* from 3963 North Creek Rd., Palmyra, NY 14522): People don't seem to write many stories with happy endings these days, and I guess my reaction to this one may help explain why. Everything worked out in the end, and it all seemed too pat. I kept waiting for the tension, the crisis, the sudden twists, and didn't get any of them. Serviceable prose, but unsatisfying. (S-13)

★★★★★

Richard J. Neubauer, **TODAY** ($1 *CASH/Stamps* each from 3963 North Creek Rd., Palmyra, NY 14522): I frankly don't know what to make of this one. It's a short story, I suppose, told in terms of 6 vignettes. Each concerns a child with the impulse to self-destruct, the struggle of the adults to leave him alone, and the results of the learning process. Dream? Fantasy? Family? (D-12)

★★★★★

THE NEW YORK MUSIC DIRECTORY 1990 ($? from Subway Publications, PO Box 2001, New York, NY 10009): A guide to the indie music industry in New York City and environs, with plenty of listings for bands, agents, record companies, publications, consultants, and more. They give contact info for everyone, with fax numbers where possible, and make it possible for those who want to put in longer descriptive info. Write now for info on being listed in the 1991 edition. (S-48t)

★★★★★

B.Z. Niditch, **MASTURBATION** (1¢ from GAPress, 275 Woolwich St., Bsmt., Guelph, ONT, N1H 3V8, CANADA): A set of four maxims on the subject of masturbation. They're numbered 1206 through 1209, perhaps to make you believe that Niditch has written over 1200 other brilliant thoughts on the subject. It's up to you. (M-7)

★★★★★

John Ohliger, **STRAIGHT TIME & STANDARD BRAND ADULT EDUCATION** ($1 from Basic Choices, 730 W. Jefferson #1, Springfield, IL 62702): An essay exploring whether there is still a chance for vibrant, serendipitous adult education and lifelong learning in an age when increasing regimentation and measurement is taking over. John doesn't know the answer, but he invites others to join in a discussion to find it. This also ties in with some work he's done on the approaching millenium, which you will find discussed here as well. (S-4)

★★★★★

Robert Pasternak & Ron White, **RETURN FROM JOLT** ($13 from 291 Rupertsland Ave., Winnipeg, MB, R2V 0G5, CANADA): A fat spiral-bound book of stfnal art. It's all printed in black & white but comes with a watercolor set. Themes range from comics of cosmic scale to women in outre uniforms to a guitarist dissolving into a sea of start. Much of this is absolutely lovely, and the book is a nice one to browse through. (S-50)

★★★★★

John R. Richards, **SECRETS OF THE DREAM PEDDLERS** ($14 from 226 SW 80th Blvd., Gainesville, FL 32607-1552): Richards contacted about 40 get-rich-quick schemes (you know, the ones that advertise stuff like "$1,000,000 a year or your money back") and reduced each to a single-page analysis, showing what the scheme is and how well it matches up with the ad, together with some commentary on their worth (not all are worthless). The price for this information may seem high, but if it saves you hundreds writing for other booklets, it's not too bad. Plus the analysis is realistic and entertaining. There's still no easy road to riches here, but the least rocky ones are clearly identified for you. (S-37r)

★★★★★

Stuart Pods Ross, **GUIDED MISSILES** ($4 from Proper Tales Press, PO Box 789, Stn. F, Toronto, ONT, M4Y 2N7, CANADA): A very very odd novelette. The main character is Archie Matanza, a doo-wop DJ struggling to make the world work in the face of deranged street preachers, kamikaze flies, and an apartment building filled with kooks. Ross apparently gave up on a coherent story part way through and went for imagery instead, which this work is rich with. Even meaning seems to be buried somewhere underneath the convoluted style. (D-46t)

★★★★★

Carol A. Schneck, **SOMEBODY ASKED ME WHAT YOU WROTE ABOUT AND ALL I COULD THINK OF WAS AIDS** ($1 from 749 Niagara, San Francisco, CA 94112): A pamphlet of Carol's essays and poems about living in a social circle where AIDS is a reality, not something that just happens to other people. Sexual links, shooting up, the pain of needles years later, and the mixed feelings of taking the HIV test are all mixed in here. (HL-16)

★★★★★

SCREAM LONG SCREAM LOUD $1 from Jouni Wäärakangas, Poste Restante, 00980 Helsinki, FINLAND): A mixed bag here. The first half of this is a reprint of Martti Koski's classic pamphlet on mind control **MY LIFE DEPENDS ON YOU!** The rest is a mixture of manifestoes from such diverse locales as the Art Strike and the punkturists, together with art, lyrics and cartoons. Culture on the edge. (D-36t)

★★★★★

Michael Shores, **ANCIENT STORIES** ($3 from American Living Press, PO Box 901, Allston, MA 02134): A selection of collages from various woodcut sources—the AL Press catalog calls it "visual poetry". Anatomic drawings, classic statuary and a sense of impending doom fill much of the booklet. (D-40)

★★★★★

Markus Simian, **M'S MOST HIGH SPEECH** ($1 from 2 Miller Rd., Poughkeepsie, NY 12603): A transcribed speech that strings together rather esoteric ideas on nature, man, and heroism. Simian seems to have boiled down his thoughts into the densest possible manuscript, wrapping up layers of meaning until they are practically

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impossible to decipher—or perhaps he just has a portentous way of speaking. It *seems* important, anyhow. (S-6)

★★★★★

Adam Smith, **COLORADO JUDICIAL BLUNDER CONCERNING THREE ILLEGAL JUDGES** ($_{0}1^{\infty}$ (?) from 61 S. Julian St., Denver, CO 80219): Smith seems to have caught the Colorado state legislature amending the State Constitution by passing a law—which is a no-no, of course, since such actions are reserved to the people of that state. Briefly, the legislature extended the power of the Colorado Chief Justice to appoint retired judges to temporary positions. The media in Colorado don't seem too interested in this, which is a shame. (S-7)

★★★★★

G.W. Smith, **OLD MILL MEMORIES** ($3.50 from Greg Stomberg, 303 S. 5th St., Oregon, IL 61061): A rather rough-hewn collection of song lyrics from Smith, who is a country and western folk singer. There's a lot on loneliness and the need for friends, on family, and on the scenery of the west. Illustrated with photocopied photos of the outdoors. (D-36)

★★★★★

Gerald Sprouse, **HOW TO MAKE WINE** (50¢ & SASE from Sunshine Publications, PO Box 830, Ooltewah, TN 37363): A simple, relatively low-tech introduction to making wine from various fruit mixtures. Gerald gives some hints on what ferments well and what doesn't, talks about basic equipment, and generally urges people to have a good time. (S-3)

★★★★★

William Stoddard, **THE FREE WOMAN: AN ESSAY IN LIBERTARIAN CULTURAL ANALYSIS** (Contact Libertarian Alliance, 1 Russell Chambers, The Piazza, Covent Garden, London, WC2E 8AA, ENGLAND): An exploration of what feminism might mean if it were conceived of as encouraging "a society founded on equal freedom of choice". Some of the conclusions here (particularly that women have sole responsibility, in the absence of prior agreement, to deal with the reproductive consequences of sex) will disturb the classic liberal, but mostly I find it to be a solid piece of work. (A4-4t)

★★★★★

Tabouli, **HOW TO BEAT THE HIGH COST OF MAGAZINES 2** from PO Box 1155, Plaistow, NH 03865): This is a two-part scam. The first part is a method that will probably enable you to con free sample issues out of a lot of magazine publishers. The second scam is that you're paying $2 for two typed pages, one of which is mainly blank space. Well, they say you can't cheat an honest man. (S-2)

★★★★★

THIS IS THE PERSON WHO LIVED OVER THERE ($1 (?) from Chris Wind, 40 Grave Ave., Ottawa, K1S 3A6, CANADA): I put this here with some trepidation; it would be as much at home in the "Mail Art" or "Poetry" sections, being a sort of concrete poem on a carefully-folded piece of cover stock. It traces some of the connections and ramifications between a society and an individual act of violence. Very curious. (O-1)

★★★★★

TRANSITIONS ABROAD EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL DIRECTORY ($4.50 from 18 Hulst Rd., Box 344, Amherst, MA 01004): This is the 1990-91 edition of their yearly guide to the best contacts for people who want to get into "living, learning, and working overseas". It lists contacts for everything from place to work to books to read to educational programs you can get into. And if it's not here, they can probably tell you where to find it. (S-64t)

★★★★★

TWISTED LINE OF SIGHT (25¢ from John Porcellino, 1954 Brookside Ln., Hoffman Estates, IL 60194): A mini of collages featuring both words and pictures. While there may well be a point to some of these images, I hesitate to guess what it is. What, for example, does one make of three people with the word "jar" pasted over their eyes, "lid" over the woman's breasts, and "cookie" over the men's hands? (M-16)

★★★★★

Ken Wagner, **MUGGEE** and **THROUGH RAIN, SLEET AND SNOW**(SASE & one dime from PO Box 587, Olean, NY 14760): A pair of self-published short stories. **MUGGEE** investigates fear of strangers in a racial context, with the rather predictable lesson that people are not so bad when you get to know them. The other is a human-interest true story dealing with Ken's experiences canvassing for money for a non-profit group, and is mildly amusing. (HL-8r)

★★★★★

Jason Walters, **FIST FULL OF DARKNESS** ($1 from Maga Publications, PO Box 6704, Stn. A, Toronto, ONT, M5W 1X5, CANADA): Four untitled short stores from Jason in a classy pocketsized package. One is a postholocaust nightmare, one a paean to drugs and reality, the others less obvious. Jason is getting very good at weaving disturbing webs of words, and this is a fine presentation of his work. (MM-24t)

★★★★★

YOU'VE GOT A FRIEND OFFICIAL TOUR PROGRAM (25¢ & 45¢ postage from Frank Boscoe, PO Box 208 CMU, Pittsburgh, PA 15213): This goes with a tour a bunch of Pennsylvania bands are playing this summer, visiting the home towns of as many band members as possible. The booklet describes each home town as remembered by those growing up in it, with where the cool places to hang out are and what the social scene is like. Check out Tatamy, with its brand-new cop. (HL-12t)

★★★★★

Jeff Zenick, **ANOTHER "2 WEEK" VACATION JOURNAL** ($1 (?) from 690 Industrial Dr., Tallahassee, FL, 32310): A diary of Jeff's two weeks this Spring bopping around the eastern part of the country visiting friends and relatives. It's illustrated with his own intricate drawings of people and landscapes. Jeff writes simply and unaffectedly, and this would fit well somewhere like **DIARIST'S JOURNAL**. (D-12)

★★★★★

ZOYNX ($1 (?) from Dave Ricker, 250 Floral Ln., Woodridge, NJ 07075): Another booklet of mutant photocopies from Dave. He draws on fifties images of happy families, modern problems, monster movies, nekkid wimmen and dialogue from various comics in putting together his collages. There are also a couple pages of written work, including recommendations for other bizarre zines. (D-24)

PAMPHLET NOTES

- **The Krylon Underground** (PO Box 5830, Bethesda, MD 20824) has a number of reprinted works from the fringes of illuminated thought available. These include essays by Robert Anton Wilson and Timothy Leary, a reprint of THE OCCULT TECHNOLOGY OF POWER, a Tim Leary interview from ROLLING STONE, and more. None are original to the Krylons which is why I'm not reviewing them in detail, but $5 should get you some sort of assortment.
- **Shalimar Graphics** (PO Box 4721, Berkeley, CA 94704) has announced the impending release of CELEBRATING THE 250TH BIRTHDAY OF THE MARQUIS DE SADE, a selection of de Sade's work, for 4 stamps and an age statement.
- **Gerald Sprouse** (Sunshine Publications, PO Box 830, Ooltewah, TN 37363) makes available a variety of reprints, including material from the racist Church of the Creator, for 50¢ and an SASE each.

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How Much Work Could a Network Net if a Network Could Net Work?

NET WORK

Proud Mary and The Internal Network

by Mark Bloch

We are living in a world where, as always, there is a huge Machine out there churning away. There are a few of us who don't want to be part of it. Well, at least not fully. Not all the time. So we choose to be in this smaller machine which has come to be known as mail art or self-publishing or The Eternal Network.

So here we are in our little world, our Eternal Network. What is it like? It is a collection of individuals. But inside each of us we have a kind of inner network, a number of voices that speak to us in different ways. Who is the "us" that is being spoken to? I dunno. But hopefully we all are able to coral all these voices into a single vector and with that vector we enter into the external Eternal network. A dissident voice in our Internal Network that hasn't been listened to can make the message confusing. Every voice in our Internal Network needs to be heard and dealt with before we can communicate effectively with the outer Eternal Network.

So what happens when we get there? Messages are flying everywhere. Each of us is writing and communicating not just to one person but with many others at roughly the same time, in any number of languages, also using representational codes like "art." So the communication is not just one to one. And as we all know, one-to-one communication is difficult enough. So imagine having to participate in this myriad of cross-currents called The Eternal Network with all kinds of people at once, people who you may or not know, people who may or may not know each other, people who may or may not be in touch with all the voices of their own inner network. So that makes for a lot of variables when it comes to communication.

If communication is defined as the sending and reception of a particular message, then absolute communication is impossible. What is transmitted is never recieved in its entirety. We all have slightly different ways of interpretting words and concepts, they mean different things, our values aredifferent, our memories are different, nuances get lost in the transmission. There may be a part of the Internal Network that is quite present in the transmission but not consciously known by the person transmiitting.

The key is refining the Internal Network so that the communcation is as clear as posssible when it leaves the "self" and enters the external network. (Jung called it The Self. For now, I will call it a "node". A node is the collective energies of one person's Internal Network, percieved by the outside world, and even to ourselves, as a single consciousness. This is not true however, in fact we all consist of an inner network of many voices, as described above. Those who differ with this opinion may consider that the node is not the collective enegies of the inner voices but that the node is instead the individual's consciousness in it's most basic state. I personally feel there is more to it than that, however. Jung did too and I direct you to Jungian psychology in an effort to understand your own Internal Network.)

When information leaves a self, a node as it were, it begins to bounce around the outer network. Perhaps a message is sent from the sender—Node Z—to another person in the network—Node A, but a copy was also sent to Node B, a partial copy was sent to Node C, etc. Nodes A, B, and C may exchange copies of Node Z's message amoungst themselves, with or without additions. All this activity in the Eternal Network create webs of complexity that are almost too difficult for a single person to understand. But let's focus on the lowest level of complexity—the "communication" between Nodes Z and A.

Node Z sends the message. Node A recieves the message, it is not a complete transmission of the message but that's what makes the external Eternal Network worthy of participation.It is the incomplete communication that makes the network interesting and challenging. If we all agreed and understood identically, there would be no need for the Eternal Network. We would be in complete agreement. That would be Utopian but perhaps a little boring. In fact part of the mail art Network has become complacent that way. A feeling that the medium is the message permeates the network ("the address is the art", so to speak, as I once said) (I now see that concepts like The Address Is The Art is what has accounted for a loss of meaning in our messages. I apologize for participating in the glorification of this destructive trend.) When the medium is the message, there no longer is a need to even read the actual content of the message, to think about it to respond to it. The fact that something was sent and recieved is enough. But I hold that this is not communication nor is it interesting. It is the imperfections in the communication process and the need to overcome them that eventually creates understanding between individuals. Complacency breeds complacency and eventually isolation.

When something was sent and recieved and that is enough, it results in what the Big Machine has resulted in—a lot of mesages flying around in the form of various media, remaining unread, not fully absorbed, not fully responded to, simply acknowledged as yet another message as media. But there is no substance to media—it is a medium for the transmission of a message.

It is ironic that a guy called McLuhan gave us this M&M philosophy. The whole thing has been absorbed into the Big Machine and is now used an excuse for the lack of meaning and conviction in our society. McFish, McFries, MacPaint, McLuhan. All medium, transmitted very quickly, with no nutritional value.

When eveyone is happy that messages are being sent and recieved and no one is reading and interpretting the messages in their own flawed but human way, a kind of ennui is the result. I feel that is currently the situation in the Eternal Network. We have grown comatose from all the messages. The meaning of these messages don't permeate and challenge our Internal Network anymore, except occasionally and minimally. Perhaps because they are all media and no content, the intensity of the messages has decreased in power and scope so we end up with alot of stuff in the mail box that isn't even worth interpretting. The failure of the messages to be read has resulted in the failure of meaningful messages to be sent. On both sides meaningless messages are being transmitted. resulting in

CROSENBLATT

a loss of time and revenue on the part of the participants. We spend all the vital energy of our Internal Network on this process.

Meanwhile the Big Wheel keeps on turning.

Proud Mary is the name of the Machine, Why?—because it is a man disguised as a woman. It is a woman who is not what she appears to be. A woman is often nurturing and forgiving. A man is often aggressive and vengeful. A woman is not proud, a woman can cry, a woman can drop the pretence. She can sacrifice herself for the sake of creation. Yin. The feminine. So the idea of a Proud Mary is an oxymoron. What we get is a machine disguised as a man disguised as a woman. A man-machine in drag. Devoid of humanity, it is a consumin' machine. Proud, Big, Turnin'. Eating everything in its path. Rollin on the river. It could be called by other names.

Proud Mary is Guy Debord's "Spectacle." Orwell's "Big Brother". Call it what you want . I call it Mary—reminiscent of a certain virgin fucked by a certain god. What could be a more perfect metaphor? Purity and impurity simultaneously. An innocent virgin proudly raped, in effect, by The Man upstairs who does it all for her own good and the good of Mankind.

So we in the Network think we are not part of Proud Mary; we are in our own little network. But like the Proud Mary, we have become mesmerized by the turning of the wheel. The medium is the message for us, too. So we have become Proud Mary's little sister. Certain members of our network see Mail art as a kind of farm team for the Proud Mary. When the form of our message—the medium, that is—is sufficiently polished and has developed to a point of machine-like slickness, we can jump ship and ride on the Proud Mary. But I don't see it that way. I'd like to see our network grow away from the wake of Mary's proud Wheel.

The Network, like the businessmen who keep the Proud Mary afloat, are generally of one of two groups. There are backslappers, those who believe in the medium as the message and feel that any transmission at all deserves a hearty congratulations and a slap on the back. Then there are the backstabbers, those that smile on the outside but due to some disgruntled member of their inner network possess a message of hatred and manifest it through a calculated and sometimes subconscious act of malice against another individual. They project their inner fears and phobias on other members of the network, perhaps they write a history of the Network and leave out a certain node accidently. Or steal another node's idea and call it their own. Or write a letter to other nodes trashing the message of another behind their back. Most of us have let it happen in one form or another. But maliciousness is an obstacle to communciation. So is an obsession with Mary. Messages need to be directed to the node(s) in question. Like a disgrintled part of the Internal Network, an obsession with Mary muddies the message.

But for some, the messages only take on real meaning when they jump ship to the Proud Mary.

"It seems to me that easy access to the means of artistic (re)production (photocopiers & cassette tapes) alteredthe material relations between some cultural workers & thecommodities they produce. This results in (or co-occurs with) a changed set of social relations. Since access to the means of production is no longer necessarily controlled/mediated by a hierarchical class of "owners" (including editors/galleries/critics, via their "ownership" of cultural validation), a network of cultural workers has evolved, producing & exchanging their work amongst themselves, and creating a sub-culture: that of mail art, self-publishing and "Networking".

In reaction to the hierarchical control system in the mass-mediated dominant "art" culture, some confused ideas appear in the mail art sub-culture. One is that all participants have equal access to the "network". We are all affirmed as creative beings, and offered a completely open venue of expression, to be judged only on the merits of our work. A similar idea is that all product of the "network" are in some way of equal value-the perennial "no rejections/documentation to all" mail art show. Ideally, this would put the responsibility for critical response on each individual viewer; but in reality, the role of cultural consumer hasn't kept pace with changed roles of cultural producer. Folks still seem to wait for validation of their work by some outside arbiter-Factsheet Five, for instance. Hence the endless bitch when your favorite 'zine pans your latest cassette. The situation is self-imposed, though-by complaining about unfavorable reviews, the artist gives the power of validation to that reviewer. I believe that folks must learn to make their own critical judgements, and that intelligent reviews by other folks can help with that, if folks can read them as only one person's opinion instead of gospel." (From YAWN magazine. unidentified contributor from Cleveland, Ohio)

Where the writer's example of Factsheet Five lies in relation to Mary is open to discussion. Regardless, some see Mary as the only legitimate rubber stamp of approval in the world. It is ironic that such perceptions are often what result in some of the clearest messages in our network. For it is in seeking approval and acceptance from Mary that forces otherwise backslapping media-mongers to crystalize their fuzzy thoughts into a coherent message. Only then does the medium cease to be of interest as a thing in itself, because, in fact, even though it mimics the Proud Mary, the smaller Network ship has the task of convincing the larger one that that its existence is valid . Unfortunatley it is to the credit of Mary's Big seductive Wheel that (often unconsciously) many members of the little ship won't feel right until their messages are vindicated by the Proud Mary machine., "Art which criticizes the establishment is reintegrated into it, defusing useful comprehension of its horror." (Also from YAWN—contribution by the ASAC-CA)

So it is often only when the messages about mail art or The Eternal Network jump form the private world of the Internal Network to the larger world of the Proud Mary, that the actual message transcends the medium. This is when mail artists and others reach within themselves, to create a message with actual content. As a way of reaching out to the "higher force" that is Mary. A way of apologizing for our transgressions against the larger machine. We put it all in very clear terms, create a true message for interpretation by the Machine. But once that happens and Proud Mary decides whether or not she wants to eat the message (and she always does), it goes out of the control of the mail artist and even the Eternal Network which is the subject of the message. And of course Proud Mary's function is to eat everything that passes before it. No message or medium is too distateful for the iron stomach of the Beast Mary.

If the messages were not sent to Mary, then Mary would not know of the network's existence. She can only eat what she sees and smells and hears about. But again, it is the seductive movement of her wheel that hypnotizes just about everything into her path. Thus, the only chance of not being consumed by the Big Machine is to not let her know of our existence. To ignore the seduction. To cool down the more egotistical members of our Internal Networks who long for recognition by the larger machine. To be happy with our own little Eternal Network and not to be so eager to merge with the Proud Mary machine. To stay outside of her influence, as, for example, have certain rare tribes in the frontiers of the African continent who have not yet heard the churnings of The Mary Machine. Who listen to the beat of their own (Mary might say "unsophisticated") drumming.

But we are not those tribes. We have grown up in the belly of the Beast. We are born of Proud Mary and unto Proud Mary we shall return.But perhaps we get sick and tired of "workin for The Man every night and day." Proud Mary has it within her power to make us think that she is the relief we are seeking. That she is what we need to escape to. That's what created Mary in the first place. A distrust of our own Internal Network. But now it is Mary that makes us want to escape. She makes us doubt the power of our own inner network to comfort us, to heal us. So we turn to her seductive wheel for nurturing. But she does not and can not nurture us. She only consumes us as we attempt to consume her and she, herself, is very difficult to escape from. Because when we think we jump ship we imagine we are free but in fact Proud Mary is also the river and also the banks of the river and also the land that stretches out on either side of that river. That's why in our little boat that we think is so free, we are really only mimicing Mary.

How do we actually get out of the way of Proud Mary? Is it possible to jump ship and escape her influence for a part of each day and change Mary's course without her realizing it? Is it possible to jump Mary's ship and just enjoy being away from her? Perhaps that's why we're such a bunch of backslappers, we are just pleased as hell to have the illusion that for once Mary is not chewing our ass like a cow chews his cud. So we congratulate each other and smile. And I can see why we should or could. Even an illusion of a moment of quiet with our Internal Network can be very rewarding.

But how would we get away from the Big Wheel once and for all?

For one thing it would require that we no longer write mindlessly about our Eternal Network for her Big Wheel. Not unless we want her to hear about us. Yes, a more calculated strategy is in order. We need to be more selective about how we leak information to the Mary Machine. We can have our secrets that will keep us from being eaten. And it is important that we don't get eaten. It is important that someone in our society stay outside of the path of Mary so that we can notice when she's floating off course. Mary needs a rudder that she does not know about and I propose that the Eternal Network, directed by focused and responsible nodes, be that rudder. We need to learn to steer the Proud Mary without her knowledge. Because we answer to the higher authority of the Internal Network.

Where should we steer her? First of all the message must be returned to the role of message and the medium must be returned to the role of messenger. In the old days they used to kill the messenger if they didn't like the message. Then too, they mistook the medium for the message. But those days are over. We must all refine our inner networks so that our messages are clear. Then we must insist that our messages are recieved and responded to appropriately. Some of you will object to this. It will take the element of play out of the Eternal Network. Too many rules. Well it is "play" that Mary wants. Mary want us all to play, but to play her way, blindly, without care for the consequences. No parent in their right mind let's their kids play in the middle of a busy street. There is a time and a place for everything. I think the time for work in the network is now. Those of us who believe in our right to play in our own way must put down our toys for a while and instead work at sending meaningful messages that will be understood and have impact. Perhaps the turning of Proud Mary's Big Wheel is more benign than we think. It seems so calculated, so thought out, so complete in its path of destruction. Perhaps there is no danger. Perhaps we are Proud Mary and a quiet conversation with our Internal Network can turn the destruction around. But we must determine that ourselves. Proud Mary will have us believe unconditionally that it's all just a cruise on a riverboat. She will create the waves, we are only passengers. She tells us she has our best interests at heart and that all we have to do is sit back and enjoy the ride.

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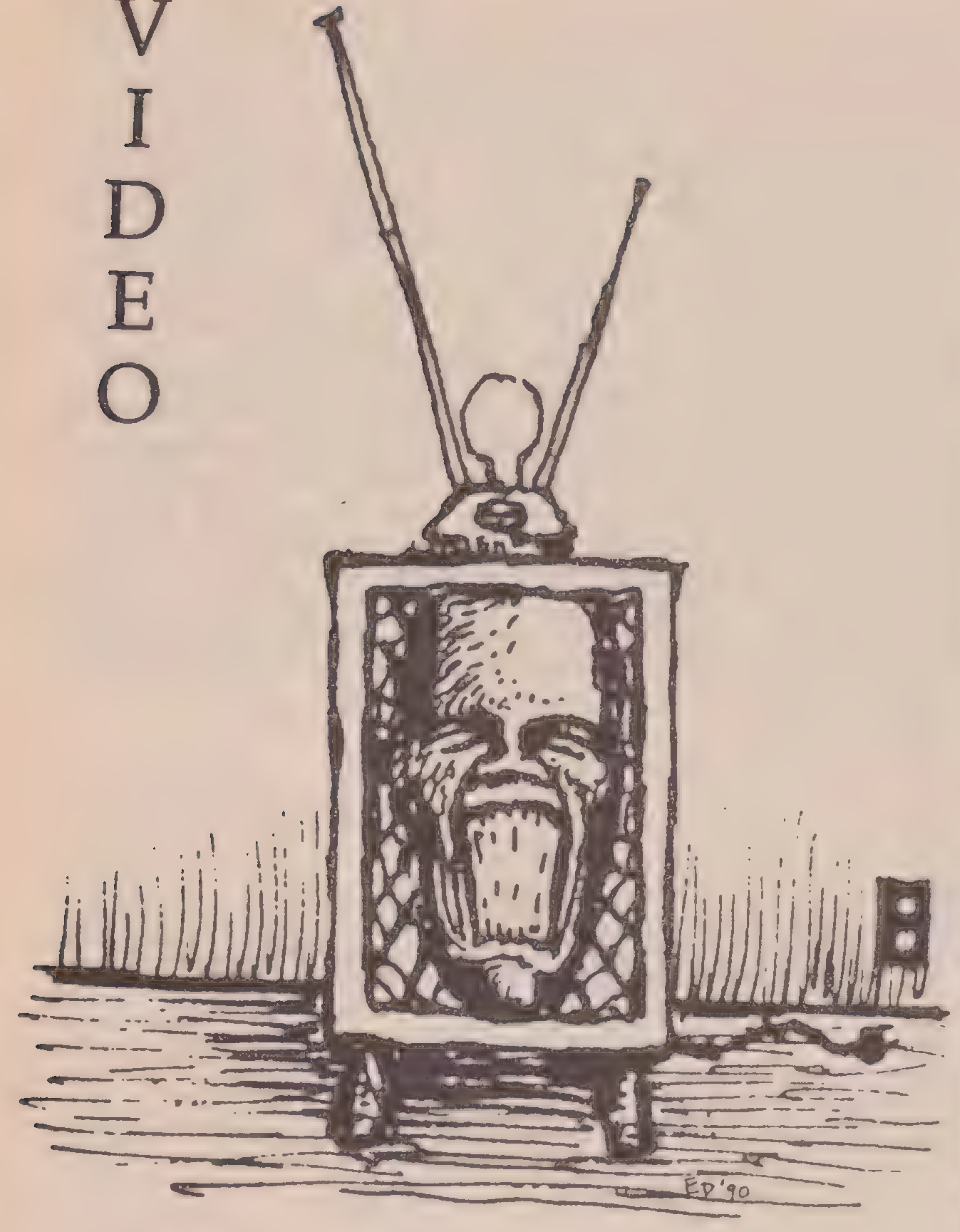


Video reviews are by The Æditor (MG) or Ted Stamas (TS). We regret that we are backlogged and behind on video reviewing, and intend to remedy the situation in the next issue of FF.

ABNORMAL SALIVATION (C$24.95 from T. Graham, 105 McCaul St. #506, Toronto, ONT M5T 2X4, CANADA): A collection of short experimental video pieces, mainly by Graham, although Kirt Isensee and Bruce Evans each have one piece on the tape. Most of Graham's work recombines images from mainstream video programming with looped soundtracks, or constructs new happenings from diverse snippets of film, as with the extended tribute to an unnamed and self-contradictory celebrity. Other pieces seem to document a teen beer party in grainy black and white. I found the whole to drag a litt,e but in short chunks it could hold my attention. (MG)

★★★★★

CONDEMEK, untitled ($4 *CASH* from Harsh House, PO Box 1544, Troy, NY 12181-1544): 8 or so minutes of industrial "mu-sic (sic.)" and video. Condemek puts together an audio track from clanking and other noises, with mixed in vocal overlays and effects. The video hops from industrial stuff to wartime to the President to video FX to distorted pictures of the band on a romp in the park. Compares favorably with any other music video I've seen, not on slickness but on interest. (MG)

★★★★★

DDT-TV (Ed Stansky, 9018 Westbridge Dr., Omaha, NE 68124): The new Wild Kingdom from the Mutual of Omaha, DDT-TV broadcasts Monday nights at 9:35 on Cox Cable, channel 23. The first few programs were music oriented, but now Ed's expanding and is looking for short films, animation, strange news, docs, home video, political/social rants, poetry (visual and spoken), industrial music videos and live band footage (local and national). DDT-TV offers a tape of any 4 shows for $8 (including postage), $3 if you send a videotape and is always looking for trades. The four shows he sent me looked real good, especially the music, so you might want to check it out.(TS)

★★★★★

INTRODUCTION TO THE SO CALLED DUCK FACTORY (Leslie Thorton c/o Drift Distribution, 83 Warren St. #5, New York, NY 10007): The fifth selection in the ongoing "Peggy and Fred in Hell" series. This installment is an abstract narrative about how to become more like Tarzan and the benefits of such an action. It also touches on light bulbs and how they float. Runs 10 minutes. Entire series available on VHS for $60.00 plus $5 shipping and handling.(TS)

★★★★★

KINGS OF INDEPENDENCE, NICK CAVE AND THE BAD SEEDS, CRIME AND THE CITY SOLUTION, SWANS (Stud!o K7, Kaiserdamm 7, 1000 Berlin 19, WEST GERMANY): A live music video from Knopf's Music Hall in Hamburg clear back in 1987. Some of it is pretty lackluster; there's really not much to the Kings of Independence and Crime and the City Solution songs that you couldn't have gotten from a tape. Nick Cave does a bit better. The Swans, though, steal the show, with absolutely compelling grunge rock, and the antics of the band make the visual experience as good as the auditory one. But for these last two cuts, the tape is merely serviceable; the Swans make it almost necessary. (MG)

★★★★★

SLIME ROCK ($20 from Pogo Video, PO Box 610, Old Chelsea Sta., New York, NY 10011): A tape of live video shot at CBGB last March, and featuring a batch of rude and loud outfits. The best performances are turned in by the Lunachicks, Ed Gein's Car and relative newcomers The Waldos, all of whom manage powerful and appropriately sloppy sets. 12 bands in all, including PMS, Ghetto Dogs, Blood Sister and Da Willys. The sound quality is decent and the camera work, if a bit rough in spots and with a tendency to linger lovingly on the female torso, is serviceable. Not quite the same as being there, but a good documentary of one side of the punk world. (MG)

★★★★★

TRAILER REEL #1 ($16.95 from Video-SIG, 1030-C E. Duane Ave. Dept. 1001, Sunnyvale, CA 94086; order #14020): A collection of movie trailers—ads for forthcoming attractions, which used to be spliced in before the movie you paid for when you went to the theater before the modern era of the VCR. Anyhow, there are some goodies here, notably the one of *Werewolves on Wheels* and the prehistoric cheesecake of Esther Williams. The major problem, of course, is that after seeing these trailers you're likely to want to dig up some of the films they were promoting, and *that* may prove to be a very difficult task. (MG)

★★★★★

TWELVE O'CLOCK HIGH (Atavistic Video, PO Box 578266, Chicago, IL 60657): A collection of mainly interesting videos from some of the best of the indie bands around these days. The Flaming Lips deliver fine low-budget psychedelia with a rendition of "Redneck School of Technology", and Dinosaur Jr.'s "Little Furry Things" also stands out.. There's a strong industrial/experimental presence here with tracks from Carbon, Selektion Optik, and Lee Renaldo. Also of note are tracks by Savage Republic, Mudhoney, and Soul Asylum (whose "Artificial Heart" is a quick low-budget gorefest with no hope of MTV airing). Most of these include at least a few simple live clips, but they're also broken up with enough effects to keep the action rolling. Good sound quality throughout. (MG)

★★★★★

URBAN BARNRAISING, Parts 1 & 2 ($16.95 each from Video-SIG, 1030-C E. Duane Ave. Dept. 1001, Sunnyvale, CA 94086; order #14421 & #14448): A pair of interviews with Karl Linn, an architect and urban planner, focusing on his thirty years' work in trying to restore community to the inner city. Linn points out that 70% of the world's people live in cities, and it is imperative to consider their lot as we try to improve the world. In a number of projects over the years he has managed to get people to come together to design and construct neighborhood commons and other shared spaces, with most of the energy coming from within communities. The interview is interspersed with slides from these projects, and descriptions of Linn's ideas on urban habitats as well as his specific successes. (MG)

VIDEO NOTES

•**Corax Productions** (8635 W. Sahara Ave. #534, Las Vegas, NV 89117) sent a flyer for some of their videos, including a couple about vacuum tubes and tube amplifiers and a collector of enema bags. SASE will probably get you more information.

•**Ecovideographe** (PO Box 2215-R Market St. #464, San Francisco, CA 94114) has produced a video about Redwood summer, to educate people about this action and generate support. Individuals may purchase a copy on a $15-25 sliding scale; groups at $25-50.

NTSC CYBERBEAT

After watching *The Cramps Live at Napa State* I felt a bit slighted, not by the video, but by the way I had to go about getting a copy for home viewing. Granted, the process for renting the tape was fairly easy: I left the house, took a ten minute walk and pulled it off the rack at a local specialty store, but I happen to live close to the only retail outlet in the fourth largest city in the country where the video is available. But what if I didn't live where I live? I might have missed out on a truly enjoyable viewing experience. And, most importantly, why can't I see this on television?

Last week a friend stopped by, handed me a stack of index cards and on the back of each card were computer generated quotes that go something like this: "In general, someone is a thing of value if and only if he or she is willing to submit to whatever degradation and abuse is required to preserve that position. Anything else betrays a lack of commitment." We'd been working on a magazine project and needed to fill space gaps during paste-up and decided on micro-novels—the short shorts like the one above by Steve Albini. The micro-novel has become much more popular the last few years and it's a form of writing I've always enjoyed. While brainstorming for some of our own, there were discussions about their source in 20th century writing and from what we could gather it was Hem in **IN OUR TIME**. Hem weaved short shorts between the Nick Adams Stories and created a novel piecemeal from writings that don't seem to have any particular relationship when taken at face value. But Hem's micro-novels weren't originally meant for **IN OUR TIME**. **in our time** was published before the same title in caps and this is a book which contains just the short shorts. A self published book, something we can all relate to, **in our time** is the child of Sherwood Anderson's **WINESBURG, OHIO** which was an extremely influential work on Left Bank writers, who influenced every other generation of writers since "the war to end all wars," which is fairly old news. But what does this have to do with film or video besides being the catalyst for a really bad flick starring Errol Flynn, Tyrone Power and Ava Gardner called *The Sun Also Rises*?

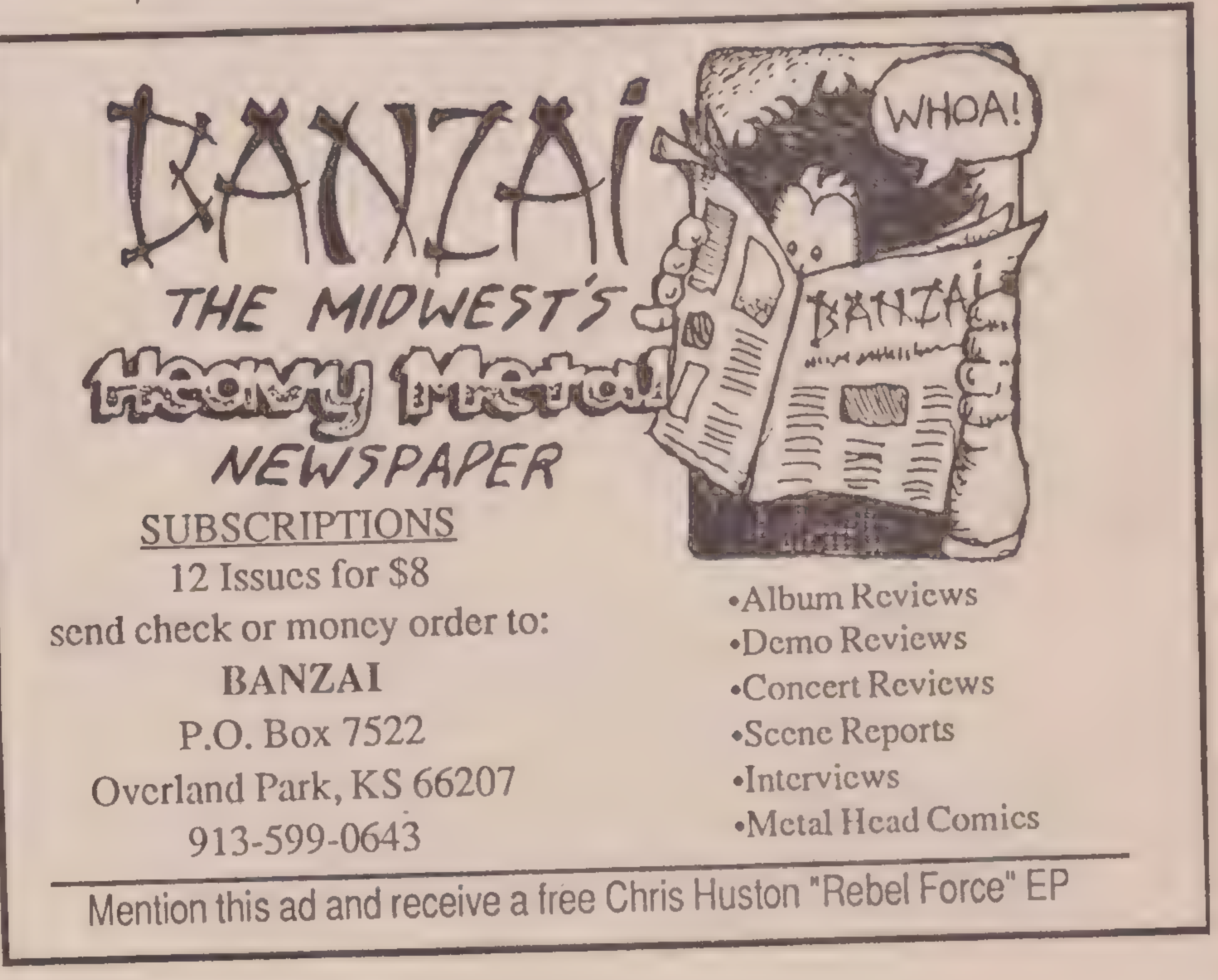
Micro-novels at the contemporary visual best are commonly referred to as the music video. Combining writing, film and the brandy of the damned, their influence is unmeasurable to a buying audience of viewers ranging in age from pre-teen to mid to late 40's and with the variety of music channel available today, it's difficult to say just how much impact they have on popular culture. Music has always been important to me and although I don't follow the industry, I'm usually fairly well informed about a new album or group through musicians in the neighborhood. This past month I ventured on a personal project and compiled a two hour tape of music vids by sitting in front of the TV and zipping for remote record convenience. The results are some casual observations from about 40 hours of VH1, MTV, BET, PBS, The Nashville Network and Video Jukebox.

VH1 is VH1 and although I don't appreciate many of the current vids they screen, their oldies shows and rock docs are well done. Basically, what they do is promote what the industry describes as rock and roll musicians when they were really rock and roll musicians about 15 or 20 years ago competing for AM chart spots with one hit bands that are now called cult. VH1 is audience specific in their presentation and caters to the over 25 crowd with disposable income. As more sets of oldies get rereleased on CD's by major labels, it's not surprising to see the same old shit played over and over again. Not once did I see anything by Alice Cooper, The Stooges, of The New York Dolls or even older cuts by groups like Status Quo or The Swingin' Medallions. Despite it's drawbacks, I enjoyed the 16mm shorts of flower power groups and saw some things that have long been forgotten, but as much as I like Herman's Hermits and Paul Revere and The Raiders, I didn't record a single song off VH1 after sitting through about seven hours of programming because nothing was fresh and this is what I wanted.

Video Jukebox proved to be a real gem. The concept is simple, just like a regular jukebox, but the playlist with collated three digit numbers is computer generated on the TV screen which allows you not to drop two bits in the side of the set, but dovetail with a 900 number and for two dollars a pop, you can punch in whatever song you'd like to see with your telephone. They have a selection of almost three hundred songs and from what I've been told by a friend that's allowed Video Jukebox since it began broadcasting in my area only a year ago, they've expanded swiftly from their fifty original tunes. The primary offerings are rap, which I enjoyed because many rap groups are on artist-run independent labels and since the albums sell the corresponding visuals accompanying the songs aren't formatted to meet the tastes of industry giants. NWA, 2 Live Crew, and Public Enemy all had gritty presentations using everything from super-8 film to S-VHS. It was quite refreshing and I excessively taped off the Jukebox with it's 24 hour a day availability. Although groups like The Red Hot Chili Peppers and AC/DC had videos included on the playlist, I didn't see anything remotely akin to *The Cramps Live at Napa State*, but I'm not sure what process a music video director would have to go through to get a song played. If you have something to offer, the Video Jukebox service number is 1-800-USA-JUKE.

BET, otherwise known as Black Entertainment Television, has two very good music shows in Rap City and Video Soul. Rap City broadcasts 4:30 to 5:30 Monday through Friday afternoons and Video Soul can be seen weeknights from 9 to 11 with an 8 to 10 slot Saturday nights. If you enjoy hip hop or contemporary R & B, these programs are for you. What's most important about them is they're consistently broadcast at regular times which allows the viewer to choose between watching at airtime or conveniently programming a VCR for future use. BET enables a specific target audience the opportunity to watch current music vids at times that are accessible to just about anybody and as a result, they're building a large following and with a large following comes the best form of advertising, as Henry Miller put it—word of mouth—which increases visibility and album sales.

Two other networks also offer music programs with regularity. PBS has the "Great Performances" series for Classical and The Nashville Network broadcasts urban cowboy type shows for Country and Western fans. I often listen to both forms of music, but found them difficult to watch. What' significant is if you like to eyeball Ricardo Muti or the ole pea picker Tennessee Ernie Ford, you have the opportunity to just turn on the tube at a specific time listed in your TV Guide. Again, I didn't see anything resembling *The Cramps Live At Napa State* on PBS or The Nashville Network, but there is MTV and here I thought I'd have a chance.



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Mention this ad and receive a free Chris Huston "Rebel Force" EP

Colossal Pictures does a superior job in producing the logos and commercials for various MTV programs, probably too good of a job like the trailer company that shows great previews for truly terrible movies. If there ever is a wasteland in popular culture today, it's got to be MTV: I'll take reruns of *Dallas* instead. I tried to enjoy MTV's playlist but found Guns 'n Roses is Skid Row is Motley Crue is Whitesnake is the same as everybody else. Its alternative music show "120 Minutes" broadcasts some interesting bands, but none of the visuals come close to Public Enemy's "Welcome to the Terrordome." What MTV is promoting as "cutting edge" is nothing more than a rehashing at best of the same old music video styles we've been seeing for 10 years and I question their definition of alternative music. Here's a list of some of the groups Real George's Backroom TV's broadcast over the past few months and ask yourself if you've seen the likes of these on the Major Music Network: Flaming Lips, Steel Pole Bath Tub, Souled American, House of Freaks, Sleep Chamber, Swingin Teens, Passion Fodder, Workkdogs, Too Much Joy, Savage Republic, Ajax, My Life With The Thrill Kill Kult, Giant Sand, Spacemen 3, Renegade Sound Wave, Rave-Ups, Young Fresh Fellows, Galaxie 500, Ministry, Front 242, Agitpop, Young and Restless, The Wild Boys, Queen Latifah, Lilac Time, Wonderstuff, Pastels, The Cramps, and Three Hypnotics, Sure, some of these groups will pop up occasionally on "120 Minutes" at 1:00 am Monday morning when nobody's watching, but who cares? I get tired of the commercials and want to see something other than Stridex Pads. With Real George you're getting the real thing and the same holds true for Bombshelter Videos out of Seattle. I just wish they had a satellite link-up. The only times I get to see their shows is once every six months when somebody from out of town sends me a tape they've pirated from a regional cable source.

The kicker with MTV was a "Yo: MTV Raps" special on the 2 Live Crew fiasco. Fab Five Freddie sat on the steps on The New York Public Library with a rock critic from **THE NEW YORK TIMES** and they presented the audience with an intelligent and well balanced discussion about censorship. Taken at face value they wooed me, but after a while I kept thinking "MTV talking about censorship, what shit," and turned the channel after recording 2 Live Crew's cover of "Doo Wa Diddu." I never should have sold my copy of **THE TRIAL OF THE TROPIC OF CAPRICORN.**

And here's our mutant public access for this issue:

BRAINS ON FILM (George Maranville, 208 Zandale Drive, Lexington, KY 40503): George, who's been a lot of help to artists and producers in the cable mutant scene is starting a new show. He's looking for anything: talk, music, gore on 1/2" or 3/4". He returns tapes and is looking to blow some minds in the semi-deep South. Matter for the grey matter.

REAL GEORGE'S BACKROOM TV, (Real George, c/o PO Box 3111, Albany, NY 12203): Ask yourself, why do so many interesting things come out of the Albany area? This show's everywhere—almost, so pick it up if you don't have it and send a tape if you've got one: 1/2" or 3/4".

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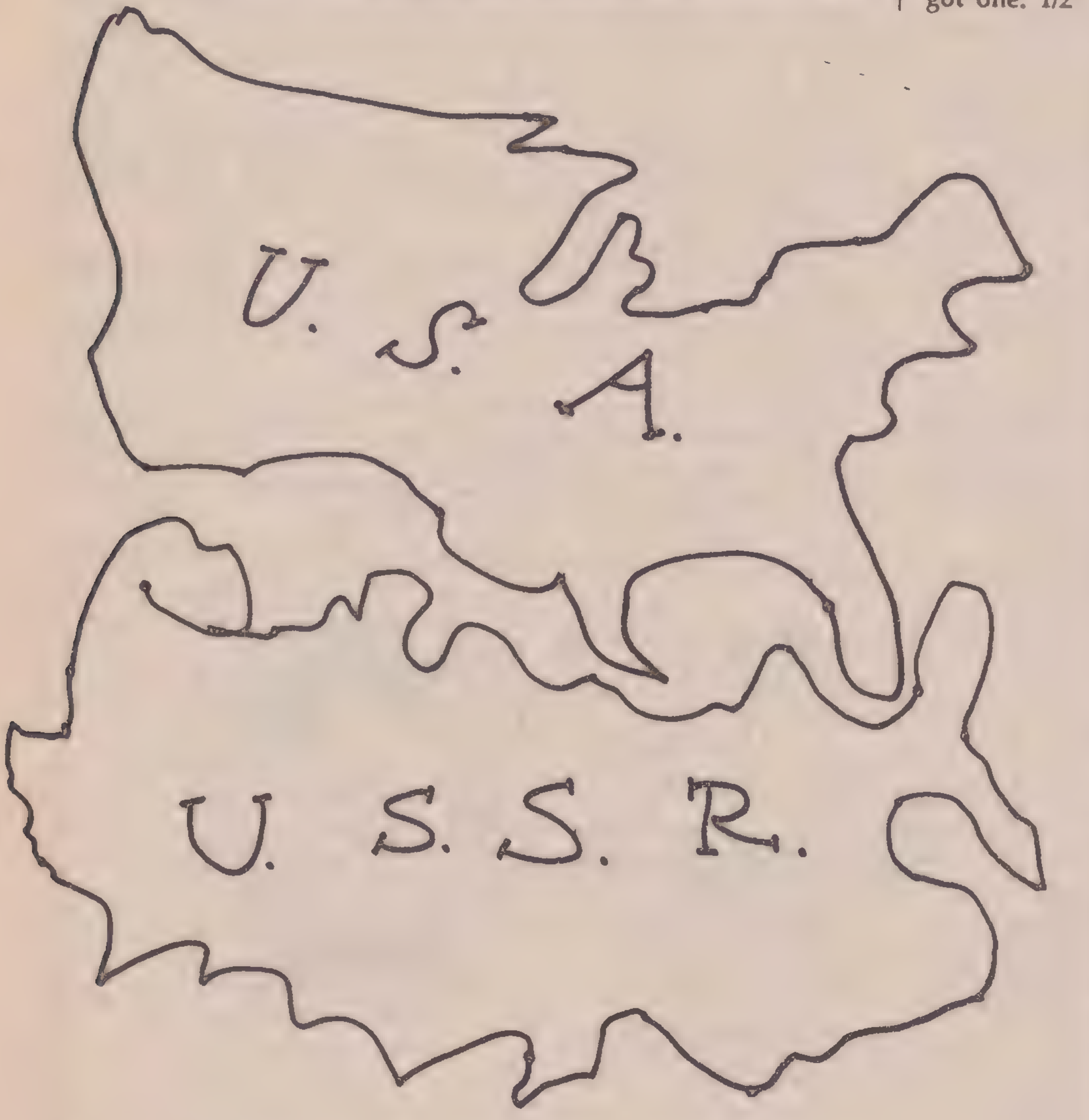

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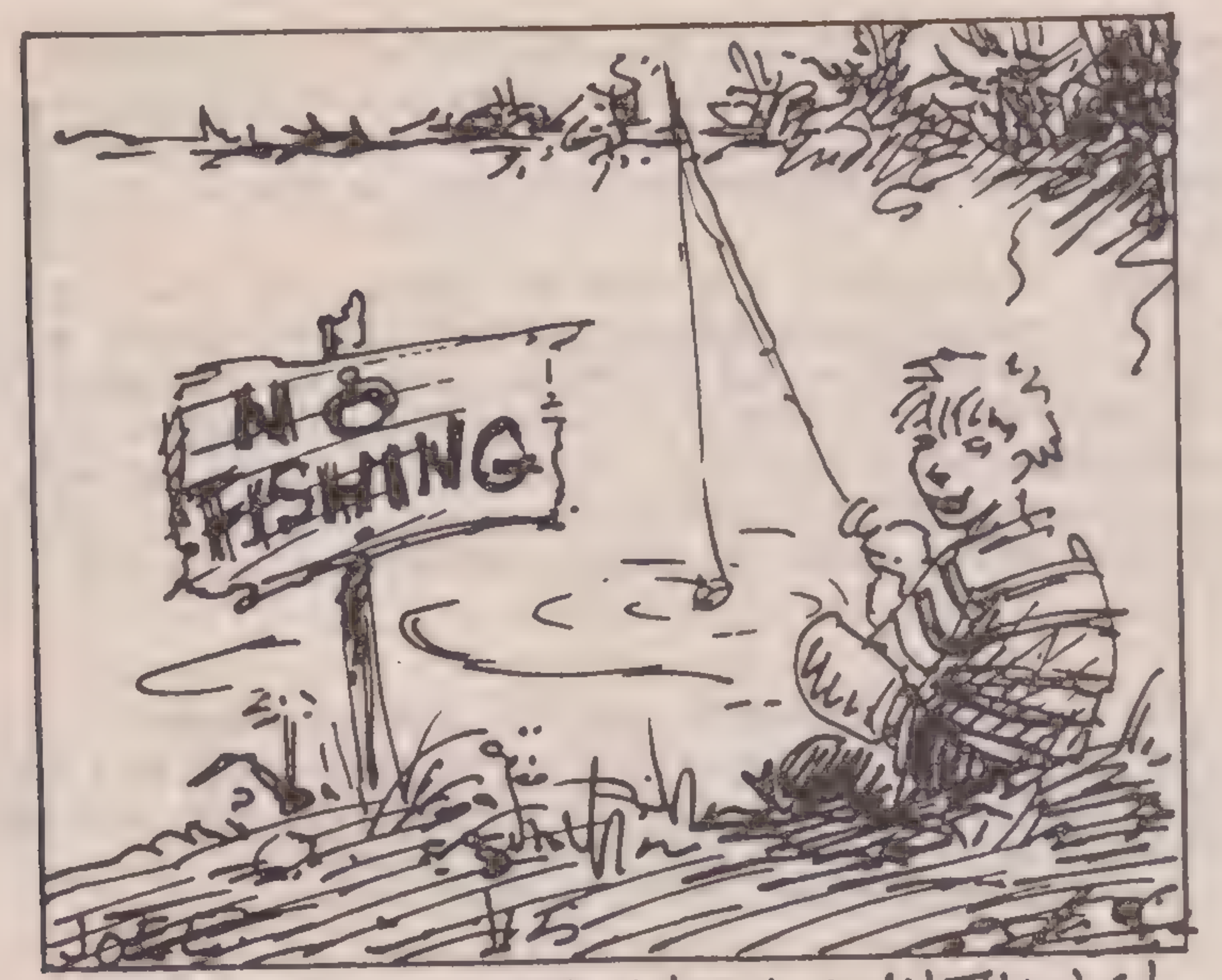


IT'S OK. I NEVER CATCH ANYTHING!

The Fishing Hole

by Joe "Kingfish" Lane

The column of the ups and downs of the small press once again rears its head, this time to expouse upon the subject of small press book publishing.

In my last column I asked people to send me information on the subject of costs of publishing. I also had attempted to self publish my own book in the past and was in the process of teaching my best friend Lori Hixon how to do a booklet of her own. Needless to say that my protege picked up on the process with more skill than I, the teacher.

Then came in a letter from Joe Singer of Mother of Ashes Press. Joe publishes the **PRINTER'S DEVIL**, a guide to the visual arts (printing arts that is).

The latest book from **FACTSHEET FIVE, WHY PUBLISH?**, was printed at Mother of Ashes Press and Joe was kind enough to enclose a copy of his worksheet that he used in figuring costs for **WHY PUBLISH?** And Mr. Mike has given me permission to allow you, the readers, a chance to see what the costs of this booklet were and so you can see why a small press book that costs 97¢ to print usually retails for three bucks.

Mike sent full camera ready copy for a 56 page booklet to Joe out in Harrison, Idaho. Joe charges $15/hour for the work plus the cost of the paper used. The paper cost includes a 20 percent mark up for freight and spoilage.

For the cost of the paper for the book pages, a 60 lb. stone vellum paper Joe charged $171.99. For the book covers, a 65 lb. vellum orchid paper was used and cost a total of $34.18. So the paper for **WHY PUBLISH?** cost a total of $206.

For cost of Singer's printing labor the following were factored in for that cost: halftones at $5 apiece, set ups, wash ups et cetera to yield the $15 per hour. Total cost: $255.

The cost of trimming was $50 due to the fact that Singer had to have this done at a commercial shop. The binding cost for each booklet was 37¢ a copy. Total cost: $240.

So to have Mother of Ashes Press print up 500 copies of **WHY PUBLISH?** it cost Mr. Mike $701 plus about $50 in shipping. Or, according to Singer, that is what it should have cost. A problem with xerographically-imaged plates added about $75 to Singer's direct costs. "Also, i took advertising space in **FACTSHEET FIVE** in Lieu of part of the payment," Singer adds.

The main advice that Singer gives in terms of money saving ideas in book producing is "do as much of the work as possible (yourself). With **WHY PUBLISH**, for instance, Mike could have saved $190 by binding the books himself (given that the trimming would have cost him the same $50 it cost me— which would not be the case if he has a paper cutter)."

As of this writing, the first week of July, Singer and the Mother of Ashes Press are or should be moving. But by this time you reach this issue, Joe Singer should be looking for works to print so contact him through P.O. Box 135 Harrison, ID 83833. If his address is changed the Post Office should be able to forward first class mail.

Of course it must be mentioned that almost 100 free copies of **WHY PUBLISH?** went out to the various Supporting Subscribers to **FACTSHEET FIVE** and to reviewers such as Whole Earth Review... So to recoup any and all losses the profit has to come from the 400 copies sold.

Plus the price that Mike usually lists includes the cost of mailing the booklets. This amounts to 7¢ for an envelope and 85¢ postage. And considering that Factsheet Five itself has many distributors, I believe that copies went out at 60 percent face value or a 40 percent discount.

So total cost for 500 copies, printed and mailed, is about $1160: $700 for printing and another $460 for mailing. If 400 copies are sold, mike takes in $1400. That leaves a profit of $240, or about 60¢ on each copy sold—assuming that they all sell for full face value rather than through a distributor.

So as one can see, self-publishing can be expensive for even a magazine editor who can constantly advertise in his or her own zine. It takes time for even Mike to sell all of the books he produces. So hopefully some of you book publishers can give me some advice on how to market small press books for a future column. Or call me (see end of column).,

★★★★★

Anarchist publisher Fred Woodworth of The Match also wrote me to let readers and editors know that he is also in the business of publishing various zines. His limitations are that he does not print on newsprint nor can he print page sizes much larger than legal size. But if you have a music zine or small press periodical 8 1/2 x 11 then he can do it. He adds that his press has a NO CENSORSHIP policy.

Woodworth, who has had to move often because of various reasons including harrassment, says that he currently prints zines, some famous, some not so. But even with shipping charges, many people find Woodworth the cheapest way to go without the hassle of having printers complain about the material. Although the costs are different for each project I'm sure a letter with a job description will get a quote from Fred.

Fred can be reached at THE MATCH, PO Box 3488, Tucson, AZ 85722.

★★★★★

Time to gripe. There seems to be problems with some companies or library groups as to payment for small press publications. They don't pay any attention to the fact that when they order something they are supposed to pay with their orders. Most libraries or companies that supply libraries order books, magazines et cetera and send a billing slip with the order. Once they receive the billing slip back with the publication, then they will send the payment, usually after 30 days or more when they make a month end payments on their bills. Recently I had sold a book through an ad in **FACTSHEET FIVE** while I lived in another city. I moved but sent a change of address form into the Post Office. I received an order from a company called Coutts Library Services Inc. for a copy of the book. I sent a copy of the book and noted that I was at a new address. After two months and another letter asking for payment, Coutts sent me another request that stated that I had not sent the book they ordered and when would it be available for shipping. At first I thought the first copy of the book had been lost but when I sent a second copy with the announcement that I was in Terre Haute, not at the old address (where the second request had first gone before the Post Office rerouted the letter) I again heard nothing for a month. I sent along a second letter stating my new address and asking for payment. Then I finally received a letter with a check for one copy of the book with my name and the old address upon it. Since I cannot cash the check because of the fact I no longer have a checking account in the other town I wrote a letter to Coutts and told them they were, because of their incompetence, responsible for the payment of the two books as I could only come to the conclusion that they had indeed received both books and just screwed up in their accounting of incoming shipments. I said that if they would issue me a check by July 1, 1990 without any address on it I wouldn't complain about it. They haven't so I am.

No I am not one to complain without reason. In fact I have come to realize that this is the way big companies are going to treat the small press communities. But it is my contention that I should pass this advice to anyone who is approached by Coutts: tell them to take a hike, or pay up ahead of time. In fact it should be noted by all persons sending away for small press items that publishers expect payment upon receipt of request. Let's face it. It is hard to want to operate like you are big time when the so-called big time companies are just as disorganized, or more so.

On the positive side, beginning next issue I will be doing the next five columns dealing with a "how to operate a zine" slant. This will not be a rehash of **HOW TO PUBLISH A FANZINE** but kind of a guide about how to get advertisers into zines, how to handle and develop a staff, the problems of finances. I get letters asking how do I get ads or start up funds for a zine and how do I get or find people to get involved. So if you are an experienced editor or publisher with thoughts that might help others along just starting out, please send your advice to me at POBox 4083, Terre Haute, IN 47804-4083 or call at (812)-234-3133 between 3-5 PM Eastern Standard Time. Do not call collect as I am probably just as broke as everyone else in this magazine.

Even though I may not have been happy with Coutts Library Services, the following are two librarians I know who are involved in research of the alternative press and would like to see copies of any zines you editors might be willing to part with, free of course. But at least they would eventually get stored somewhere on a permanent basis for researchers in the future.

They are: Sarah Richey, 721 Nelson Circle, Noblesville, IN 46060 and Dr. Robert Little, Library of Science Department, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, IN 47808.

At one time I was interested in Factsheet Five doing a guide to the small press as a directory but have found a useful guide already printed. It is called **THE INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORY OF LITTLE MAGAZINES AND SMALL RPESSES.** It is available from the same people who do the **SMALL PRESS REVIEW.** I am sure that a SASE sent to Dustbooks at P.O. Box 100 Paradise, CA 95967 should get information on how to be listed, and I for one would like to see everyone reviewed here to get listed there also.

★★★★★

Finally, here's a few words from my best friend Lori who has been writing for a longer time than I have and knows more about prose, poetry, and paragraphs than I will ever learn. It pretty much speaks to all of us who are reviewed in **FACTSHEET FIVE** as to the reason we write, rather than why we publish:

The Woes of Writing

by Lori Hixon

Every so often I try to convince myself to stop writing. On one such occasion, I took the privilege that we as writers have and mixed up some thoughts on the "Woes of Writing".

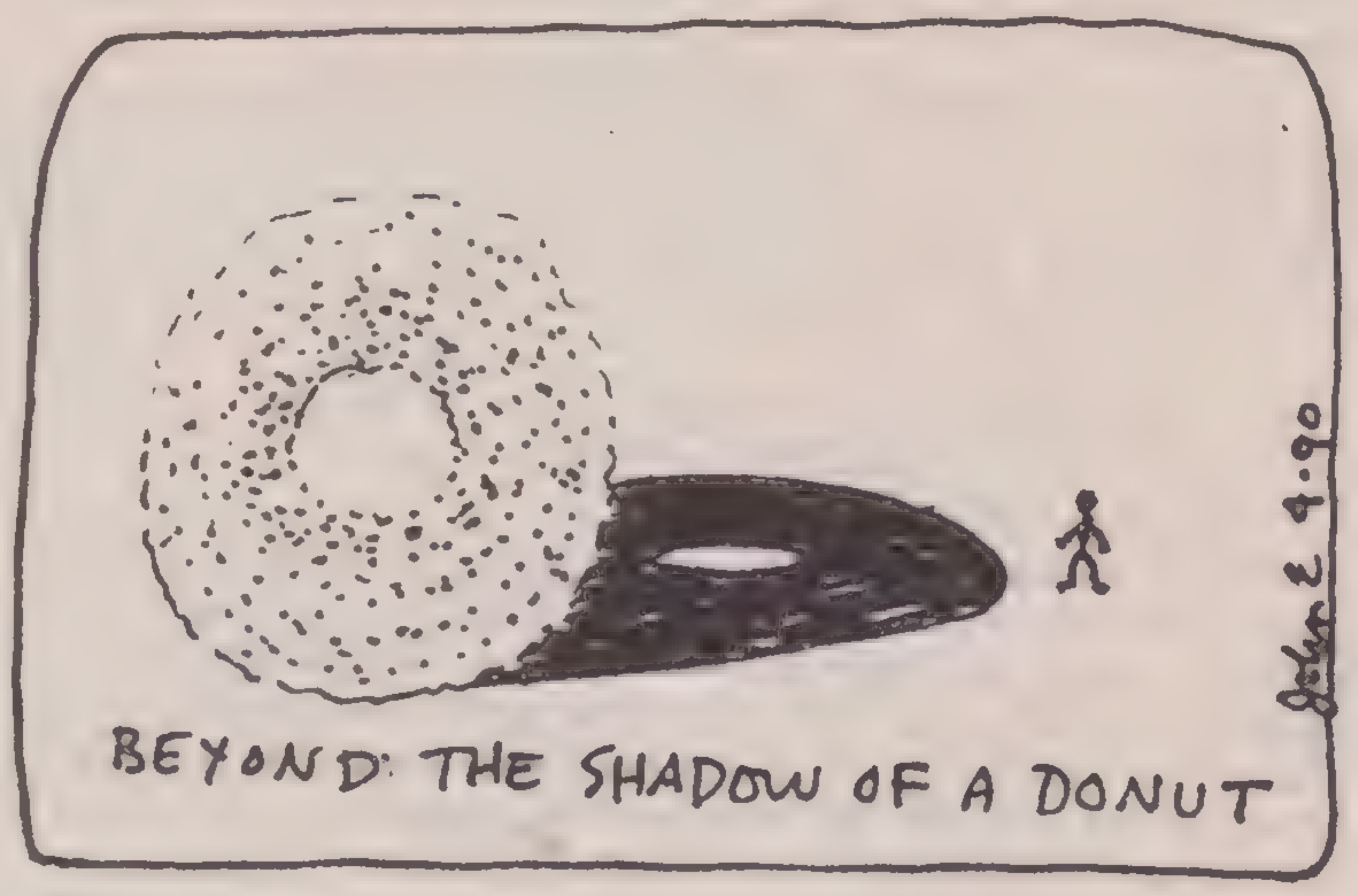
Dear Writer:

All of your dreams have vanished. You should have listened a long time ago when I tried to warn you of the pitfalls of becoming a "writer". Now you're stuck, wasting time that could be used for something constructive. You live and breathe for a typewriter whose keys you can't control, and stacks of books that will never be read. You're afflicted with pangs in the side when a US Postal truck passes, and tormented with a myriad of words that whizz and whirl inside you.

You're one of many who took the wrong road. Every day you read, you wrote, you dreamed your dreams while others watched TV and made airplanes and model cars. Sure your teachers inspired you, someone had to be the teacher's pet. A student with any writing ability at all can write, but no, that wasn't enough. You decided you would write forever. So you continue to live with your life strung out in loose leaf paper, oblivious to the rising cost of postage.

.....

I didn't convince myself to quit, and I doubt if I did you either. Face it people, you're born with it and it stays inside you forever. If you don't have guts enough to let it come out, you may not do anything with life but watch it. We may appear aloof to the world, but we have a job to do. LET'S WRITE!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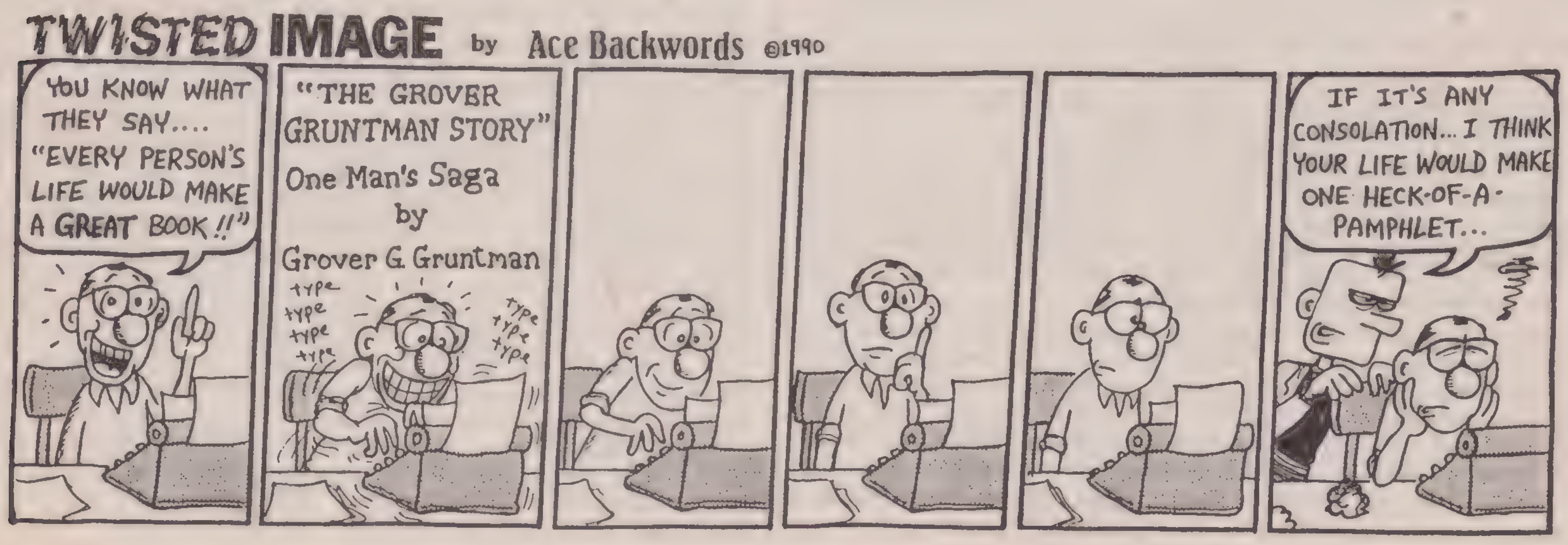
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YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY.... "EVERY PERSON'S LIFE WOULD MAKE A GREAT BOOK!!"
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IF IT'S ANY CONSOLATION... I THINK YOUR LIFE WOULD MAKE ONE HECK-OF-A-PAMPHLET...

Anni Ackner's
STARS on ONE

A bunch of the boys and I were whoopin' it up at the old This Is It Cafe the other night (the This Is It being a particular hang-out of ours, notable for the excellence of its cappucino, the creativity of its desserts—including, especially, the anatomically correct Chocolate Charlie, which has, as its working ingredients, an eclair, two balls of ice cream and work the rest out for yourself—the originality of its decor—a visit to the memorial Hall of Typewriters is highly recommended, though sitting directly underneath it isn't—and the fact that it is, so far as I know, the only place in town—or, for that matter, the world—in which Food has been named after me, thus satisfying a lifelong desire of mine to be immortalized on a menu. "Anni's Pasta", a dish that Ozzie, the chef, used to whip up for me on those nights when, vegetarian though I am, I just couldn't face another salad or stir-fry, and consisting of angel's hair pasta, fresh vegetables lightly sauteed in herb butter, and liberal amounts of garlic, proved ultimately to be so popular with the complete strangers that were wont to drop by my table and demand to know what on earth I was eating that Ozzie was eventually forced to place it on the permanent menu, at $10.95 a serving (which incidentally is $2.00 more than he used to charge me, but still worth it. Do try it sometime if you're ever in the vicinity), downing cappuccino after cappuccino, to great excess, working the pinball machines relentlessly, making Bill the Bartender switch channels ever time a Chevrolet commercial came on the tube, trying on the straw hats that Jim and Ozzie always have for sale (proceeds go to AIDS research), and just generally raison' Cain, when the talk naturally turned to moom pitures, good, bad, and indifferent. First we talked about *Total Recall* (good). Then we talked about *Robocop II* (bad). After that we talked about *Betsy's Wedding* (indifferent). Finally, Barry brought up the new Bill Murray movie. So we shot him.

Now, it wasn't that we didn't like *Quick Change*—which is what Bill Murray calls his new movie—you understand, because we did like it. Kind of. I mean, we laughed in what I'm pretty sure were all the right place—that no one else in the audience did I attribute solely to the fact that much of the film's humour depends on at least a superficial knowledge of some of the less savoury aspects of New York City, and I doubt very much that anyone else in the audience had ever been out of Berks County even as far as Harrisburg, let alone all the way to New York City, where, local wisdom holds, hordes of ravening crack fiends (some of them even Jewish) lurk in the bowels of the Port Authority, just waiting to pounce on unsuspecting Pennsylvania tourists and force them to buy season tickets to Yankee Stadium. I'm almost positive that a New York City audience, or even on in, say, Fort Lee, NJ, would have laughed most heartily at some of the witty situations—and we all said pleasant, encouraging things and nobody tried to sneak into the theatre next door to catch the last half hour of *Milo and Otis*, so, yeah, I guess we liked it okay, but the thing is that this is a *Bill Murray movie*, and we don't just want to think a Bill Murray movie is okay. We want to think a Bill Murray movie is great, and *Quick Change* is not great. *Quick Change* is just about barely good, and that's a tremendous disappointment.

I can't pretend to speak for the boys on these matters (actually, the only thing about which I can pretend to speak for the boys is selections on juke boxes, since I know from bitter experience that, nine chances out of ten, one of them is going to play "I Am What I Am" from *Cage Aux Folles* over and over again until you just want to *yip*), but my own personal admiration for Bill Murray fates back to the days of the old *Saturday Night Live* where, coming in in the middle of the second season as a replacement for the departing Chevy Chase, the range of his talent proved so far superior to Chase's rather one-note performances as to render the first year and a half not only forgettable but almost inconsequential, to the extent that many people don't realize that Murray wasn't part of a cast from the show's inception, I've retained—and even enhanced—this admiration through good films (*Meatballs, Tootsie, Ghostbusters*), films I thought were good that no one else liked (*Where The Buffalo Roam, The Razor's Edge*—for which I gave points just for the ability to wrest some sort of narrative out of Somerset Maughm's decidedly un-narrative novel), films I didn't like that other people did (*Stripes, Caddyshack*), and just plain bad films (*Scrooged, Ghostbusters II*)—that owed whatever charm and humour they might have retained primarily to Murray's presence. In short, I am a Bill Murray nut. There are so few actors capable of consistently making me laugh that I tend to exalt the ones that do and, since Murray has a better batting average with me than just about anybody else, I freely admit that I tend to be a bit silly about him. I will, to paraphrase somebody or other, cherfully watch him eat cereal for two hours if that's what makes him happy (it may not make me especially happy, but I'm getting to that) and, furthermore, I'll cut him more slack than I will just about anybody else, even sitting through *Stripes* (which I thought lost it completely as soon as they finished basic training) four or five times on the grounds that if Bill Murray decided to do this movie, there must be something in it that I just wasn't seeing.

On the other hand, there's slack and then there's slack, which brings me back to *Quick Change*.

First, just to show you that I really am on the side of the forces of right and justice, the good things about *Quick Change*: (a) It;s quite a clever idea and, when it's well-executed, which it really is, in ten minute spurts, for roughly half the movie, it borders on brilliance. It has a little of the flavour, if not the creeepy feel, of the almost perfect *After Hours*, and if it lacks the consistency of *After Hours*, well, with all due respect to Murray and Howard Frank, the co-directors, is also lacks Martin Scorese, which tells in the long run. Still, it's a far better concept than many of the comedies being made recently, and at no point in the film does anything blow up, nor does a bikini-clad woman run out onto a ski slop, which are definite pluses as far as I'm concerned; (b) it has Randy Quaid, doing a wonderful turn in a suitable role. He's terrific—doesn't waste a movement in a part that could very easily have been bathetic and stupid if done by a less capable actor, and (c) it has Bill Murray, who does what he does about as well as I've ever seen him do it. The voice of sanity in an insane situation (as opposed, you will note, to being the voice of normalcy in an abnormal situation), he is, as he generally is, sophisticated, cynical, a little smarmy—with an underlying core of niceness despite it—and extremely attractive. (As an aside, this is a phenomenon that is exceedingly difficult to explain to those to whom standard Hollywood looks are important, but it is the reason that Murray has been able to be cast in romantic, albeit comedic, leads through much of his career. A homely man who moves with the grace and confidence of a handsome one, Murray projects as being both smart and funny, two attributes that—men take note—many women find much more appealing than muscles and macho; beyond this, he also seems, on camera—whatever his attitudes may be in "real life"—to actually like women, an attitude that, for some reason, may actors seem to find difficult to portray—Tom Cruise, for example, seems never to have gotten the hang of it. All these things are quite obvious to me; I'm always a bit surprised, however, when a producer picks up on them.) It's a good little role for him—it's just a shame that the operative word in that sentence is "little".

Which brings me, unfortunately, to the things that are wrong with *Quick Change*, among them: (A) The writing is, overall, perfectly wretched. It's not enough to have a good concept for a film—*Ishtar* probably looked just swell in the brainstorming stages—and it's not even enough to have a bunch of funny lines strung together—that's a Catskill Mountains stand-up routine, not a movie—there has to be development of the concept, and something to which the funny lines can cling. Except for the first half-hour or so—during which Murray, dressed as a clown, robs a bank using a device so inspired that I hope copycat crimes don't start springing up all over the country—*Quick Change* is painfully weak on both these essentials. As an example, without giving away too much of whatever plot there is, one subplot deals with Grimm's (Murray) girlfriend Phyllis, becoming enraged with his change of attitude since the robbery, which is fine, and could even be interesting, except that, as written, Grimm doesn't seem to have a change of attitude, and it's nearly impossible to ascertain what it is Phyllis is so upset about—as it stands, Phyllis merely looks bitchy, which serves to make Grimm look almost too sympathetic. (In order to make the movie work at all, of course, Grimm must be a sympathetic character. We have to like him, so that we'll root for him to rob the bank and get away with it—if you're on the wrong side in this kind of thing, you might as well stay home and save the $6.00. On the other hand, if he looks like a plaster saint—which he almost does, in light of Phyllis' constant carping—he isn't very much fun, and the comedy becomes a morality play.) This is just plain bad writing—as is the fact that, once the bank is robbed, none of the characters are five anything terribly exciting to do. They land in some amusing circumstances, but it's all reactive rather than active, which very quickly gets tiresome—and it is not at all helped along by (B) It has Geena Davis, who is outrageously miscast. In all fairness at this point, I ought to confess that I simply don't like Davis very much as an actress, and never have, so you might want to take whatever I say about her with a grain of salt, but I wasn't the only one in our little group who thought she looked dreadfully out of place. In the first place, she doesn't disguise easily, which nearly ruins the previously mentioned device of the bank robbery (you tumble to it eventually anyway but, I think, more rapidly than you would had another, less easily recognized, actress been used), and in the second place, she appears much more nervous than funny. A tall, angular woman, handsome rather than pretty, she insists, for obscure reasons, on carrying herself as though she were 5 ft. 1 and fluffy. She did it in *Accidental Tourist*, she did it in *The Fly*, she's done it in just about everything in which I've ever seen her, and I wish to hell someone would tell her that a woman of her height—a height many of us envy—was not cut out to be a gamin. It makes her look silly, and it's incredibly distracting—for all I know, she's a good actress; it's impossible to tell when I spend most of her screen time wishing she'd take a tranquilizer and *calm down*. This is bad enough in a dramatic role. In a confection like *Quick Change*, it's very nearly unbearable, and besides (C) It has Bill Murray who, no matter what else you can say about him, has a very strong screen presence. This has nothing to do with acting talent or ability; it's simply one of those things some performers have—when he's on camera, the camera is on *him*, and so is the eye; even when he's not the featured actor in a scene, he tends to be the one you watch. This is not always particularly an asset, and in some cases is a distinct liability; it takes an equally strong cast to balance him out and keep him from dominating the screen, to the detriment of coherence and continuity. The original *Ghostbusters* worked as well as it did in part because the entire cast—especially Dan Ackroyd and Sigourney Weaver—had this screen strength; no one dominated, and an ensemble was achieved. *Quick Change* does not completely work in part because, while Murray and Quaid balance each other neatly, Davis is not strong enough to keep up with either of them, and when all three are on screen together she almost seems to vanish into the background. Considering that her role is pivotal to the story, this is almost disastrous, and you can't help but wonder how much the product would have been improved with a stronger actress. Also, there's next to no chemistry—that indefinable something—between Davis and Murray, so that what ought to have been funny, tender love scenes come out looking like two people on an uncomfortable blind date. You can't pin this on either Davis or Murray—it's either there or it's not—but, again, it's tempting to wonder how much better the thing would have been with a different actress (Carol Kane springs immediately to mind, because of the wonderful work she and Murray did together in the only salvageable 15 minutes of *Scrooged*) in the part.

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Autographed, mint-condition copies for sale. Action, suspense, horror categories available. In some cases, signed copies available before new books are even on sale to general public. Send SASE for list of current titles and prices. Supplies are limited. Contact: Jake Bartok Associates, Box 7228, Grand Central Station, New York, N.Y. 10163-6028.

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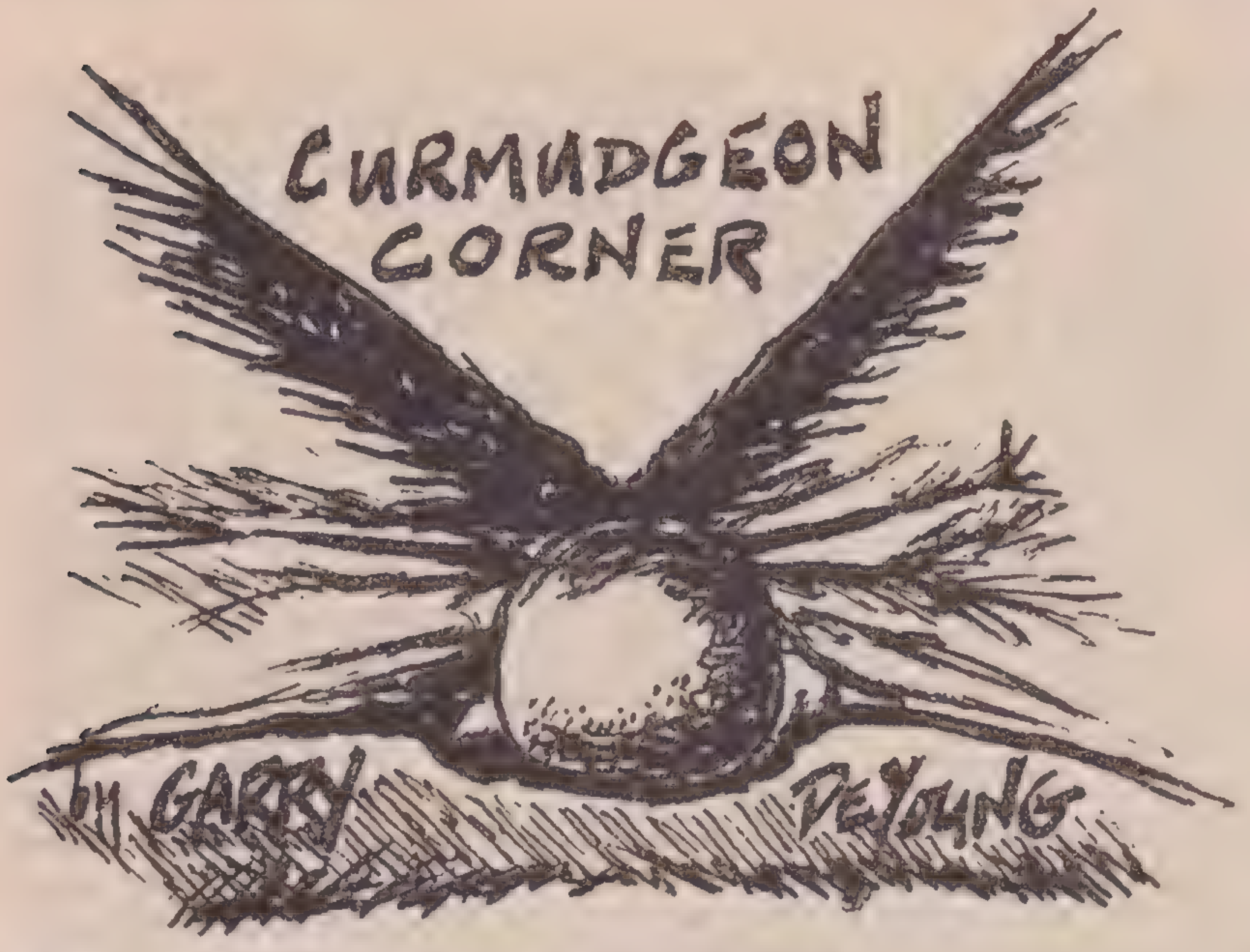
What with one thing and another, the salient point about *Quick Change* is that is' slight, it's easy, it seems to be—however much work it really took—something tossed off with one hand, as it were. There's nothing wrong with a slight comedy on a hot summer's day, of course—and even I don't expect *Citizen Kane* in the guise of a clown robbing a bank—but if, as in the case of Murray, a performer is capable of doing so much more, then it's disappointing when it doesn't work out that way. A noble failure that appears to take some kind of effort is always preferable, to my way of thinking, anyway, to a semi-success that takes the safe way out. Or, put another way, if you're John Irving you're undoubtedly perfectly capable of writing a Harlequin romance, but why would you write a Harlequin romance when you can write THE WORLD ACCORDING TO GARP?

So after we revived Barry (it was only a flesh wound) and had ourselves a plate of Anni's Pasta or two, the boys and I decided that maybe we should talk MTV for a while.

Robin Williams has a new movie due out pretty soon and we're getting perilously short of bullets.



MY REVIEWERS REVIEWED

In his **FLATLAND Catalog of Unusual Lore**, Jim Martin discusses the sophisticated methods of suppression of freedom of the press which is taking place in America today. His review of Dr. James DeMeo's synopsis of the work of Dr. Wilhelm Reich is a classic which everyone concerned about our diminishing American freedoms should read.

The issue is not whether Reich is on the cutting edge of science or whether he is just another con artist, of which America is filled—just look at your own President, George Bush and his cohorts in crime for outstanding examples of deceit.

I like what Jim Martin writes in quoting Dr. DeMeo when asked why he self-published:

DeMeo: "Going back ten years, I was teaching in universities, doing research, trying to get my research published in journals, going about it as one does in the university system. But, my research being controversial, I found that the doors for publication were closed. I couldn't get a job except at the most low-paying, temporary kind of position, and I felt it would be an insult to my research to continue in that capacity. So I struck out on my own. I had a company called Natural Energy Works where I thought I could start to sell books on all this important research that were not being sold in the bookstores at the universities. I also found that people were interested in my own writings and started putting together books coming out of my research. So in a way I was forced into this direction but it turns out that this was a more fun way to go. People put down the self-published route, but it is a better way to do it. Because of my experience with trying to get my material published I found that there was an enormous amount of censorship that people wanted me to undergo before they would be willing to publish anything I had to say. This was true of publishers, book agents, book reviewers; it seems as if there is a gauntlet you have to run before you could get a book published with a standard book publisher. And every one of them wanted to take their nine yards out of your hide, or out of your manuscript, which involved making it fit their preconceptions. I had people actually tell me that if I would only remove mention of Reich from my work that they would publish it, and this is the heart of it."

Martin and DeLeo have a great deal more to say in this Catalog, far more than I can include at this writing.

The greatness potential of Martin comes through clearly in his **1984: THE SUMMER OF HATE**. Writing like Zane Grey, Martin has the courage to pull out his own guts:

"Return to the cradle, where the life force was first twisted and bent. Love, when frustrated from birth, turns into a deadly killer without reason. Tumors are the result of sexual stasis: the chronic inability to really give oneself in love.

"Suddenly I felt a sharp, searing, ghost-pain in my penis, as if experiencing again the original natal attack on my person. I went with it, every muscle in my body contracting, my hand clutching my crotch. I curled up fetal and moaned softly.

"Do you know in your guts what it's like to have your penis attacked, only to "forget" what happened? Your body never forgot. The emotional and physical pain had been inseparable. A blinding red flash, the spirit sheared off from the body. And you were just a newborn, so unbelievably soft and tender.

"It's taken me awhile to digest this sudden memory...an explosion of long-suppressed shit. I realized that this primitive attack on who I am as a person led to my withdrawal into my head, into the world of ideas. You can always find someone willing to sell it to you, where the life force was first twisted and bent...

"There are many rationalizations for circumcision, but the true purpose behind it is to infuse a boy with a primal fear of castration on a pre-verbal level. The method of transportation out of a given form of social logic could be the hyperspace world of designer drugs, travel to a country where the language is incomprehensible, or a direct confrontation with state power. We block out this fact from our minds. Sucking on a joint, a beer, I recreate the original wound, pick at it and prevent healing. This fear frozen in our bodies later paralyzes us in acting aggressively for our own interests. We never jump into anything, unless we grab our balls first.

"The only response boys can have to such mayhem is to slip out of contact with our bodies and our emotions. We block out this fact with our minds. Search high and low for an answer to war, sexual pathology and patrism. We are locked onto an image: the moss-black senex, comfortable in his sclerotic power. We lost sight of the little boy, cold and blue on the stark operating table, where the story begins for most of us."

Powerful writing. The writing of a Steinbeck, of a Hemingway.

Then on to the final triumph. The exposure of our fascist government in its treatment of Dr. Wilhelm Reich by Dr. James DeMeo:

"The most clear and gelling example of how these social forces combine to kill a new discovery, and its discoverer, is the case of Dr. Wilhelm Reich and his orgone energy accumulator. Reich had been one of Freud's younger co-workers, and was a prime mover in the early psychoanalytic movement in Vienna and Berlin. However, his ideas were more revolutionary than those of the older psychoanalysts. He forcefully argued that human misery and mental illness were partly the result of social conditions, which could be changed to prevent neuroses.

"By the time Reich arrived in the United States in 1939, he had made a number of major scientific discoveries, and quickly attracted a group of young, enthusiastic scientists.

"...in the late 1950s and early 1960s, Reich's books and research journals, even those which were "only" banned, were periodically seized by FDA agents and Federal Marshals, and burnt in incinerators in Maine and New York. No scientific or professional organizations, journalists or writer's unions publicly objected to the book burnings, or acted to help Reich, whose laboratory headquarters was invaded by FDA agents, who destroyed instruments with axes. In addition to the above actions, the court ordered Reich to cease "disseminating information" on the orgone energy, effectively censoring his writing and speaking on the subject. Several years later Reich was charged with contempt of court when his assistant committed a technical violation of the Injunction, at a time when Reich was more than a thousand miles away, engaged in field work in the deserts of Arizona. Though he appealed all the way to the Supreme Court, Reich lost the case, and was incarcerated in Lewisberg Federal Penitentiary, where he died in 1957. His death in prison occurred two weeks prior to his parole date, at a time when he was happily anticipating his freedom, and a life in Switzerland with his new wife."

DeMeo continues his brief description of the issues:

"...When the individual experienced great pain, as from childhood traumas, when the emotions were rigidly suppressed and held back ("big boys don't cry," "nice girls don't get angry"), or when sexual stasis and starvation was experienced, the entire nervous system and musculature participated in the process of emotional suppression, or warding off of feeling. This "holding back" of feeling was also accompanied by a greater or lesser anxious retreat from pleasurable, or even potentially pleasurable situations, which would otherwise stir up suppressed and unpleasant feelings. Reich observed that when this kind of response to feeling and pleasure became chronic, so too did the individual experience a chronic stiffening and desensitization of the body, along with a reduction in respiration and contactfulness.

"Reich argued that the heterosexual genital orgasm played a central regulatory role in the energy economy of the individual, as a means to periodically discharge accumulated bioenergetic tension. The more intense the orgastic discharge of accumulated bioenergy, the more gratified, relaxed and pleasurably expansive one felt afterward. When sexual urges and other emotions were chronically frustrated, dammed-up, and repressed, however, great internal tension could build up to a bursting point, where neurotic symptoms or sadistic urges would appear. Reich developed therapeutic techniques which led to the release of long-buried feelings, and to a greater capacity for pleasure in life, particularly sexually, and as they reported an increase in genital gratification, he observed that their neurotic symptoms disappeared, as the quantity of dammed-up emotion and sexual tension was reduced."

This is but a brief synopsis of **THE ORGONE ACCUMULATOR HANDBOOK** and admittedly, there are places such as here in Northwest Iowa where the book would likely be banned because of the repressive attitudes of the local population.

Jim Martin has done a great service to America in bringing these books to our attention and I advise every reader of this review to buy a copy of each of these book from Jim Martin at **FLATLAND PRESS**, PO Box 2420, Fort Bragg, CA 95437-2420.

Mike Gunderloy panned **THE ORGONE ACCUMULATOR HANDBOOK** and thus influenced many people not to buy this fine book. In the process Mike was guilty of suppression of vital reading material which had its greatest importance in exposing the actions of our repressive government which even today uses entrapment to suppress educational materials of all kinds, especially anything dealing with sexual organs such as circumcision. Whether the orgone accumulator works or not, whether there actually is or isn't any orgone energy, is not reason enough to ban the book.

My suggestion is to buy the book and decide for yourself. After all, we don't need censorship in America. Do we?

"WHY PUBLISH?"
PRESS
FACT SHEET
Erin 90

Deborah Ryder, Ryder Publishing:

We publish novelettes on explicitly sexual (mainly sado-masochistic) themes. Of course there are certain disadvantages, such as the censorship in Britain which makes it impossible to distribute such publications on the open market. We also get attacked from the other side. The Establishment frowns on "deviants" and the libertarian underworld (with some honoured exceptions) feels that the liberty to *do your own thing* should not be extended to us because *our own thing* is just too far out.

Sadists and masochists (who can be either sex, straight, gay or bi) derive sexual pleasure from the infliction or the receiving of pain and humiliation. We also like reading about it, and I started writing and publishing Ryder books because there was such a scarcity of genuine material in this scene.

So that's why I'm publishing. The deeper question is why publish stories about sado-masochism? Because they fulfill a need. The need of a minority, certainly, but not many reading this would deny that, *in principle,* a minority has rights too.

The problem is that this right which we are claiming is the right to read about women being abducted, whipped and raped. And I, a woman, write and publish that kind of book. I consider myself truly liberated because I can face the fact of what I am and refuse to feel guilty about it. I have heard (many times) the standard reaction that reading such material will encourage men to commit rape or beat up their wives. And the equally standard response that men predisposed to such actions would do them anyway, Either way, they are not my responsibility, For those of you who would go into a state of shock at that refusal to accept guilt, remember this next time you cut in front of someone on the freeway; your action bears the responsibility for sending him home in a bad temper, to blacken his wife's eye.

I publish because there is a demand for it; I am providing a service for the people who are interested in this scene; and because (the most potent reason) I simply enjoy it. I do not know how many of mu readers simply read about it or how many have a partner with whom they can enact their fantasies. Everyone needs a retreat from reality; it makes us better able to cope with reality, Those who do not have such a retreat are probably even now getting off on thoughts of making a bonfire of Ryder books. It's only a matter of degree...

Ken Wagner,temm/HEATHENzine:

I know most people have damned good reasons for publishing; unselfish reasons pertaining to the raising of consciousness of the people, and, OK, I may be a selfish slimeball, but my reason's good enough for me. I publish because I like receiving mail from people I don't even know, and money, too—IT'S GREAT! This fixation with mail started for me as a small child, and though I've had tons of psychological evaluation—I can't break it; I am a bonafide mail groupie. When the postal workers get off work, I follow them to the bars and pester them with questions about postal rates, and how long does it take for what to get from where to where?...When I was in reform school, I sent away to all of the junk mail places, and always got the most mail in my dorm...As a writer, I blast submissions out, sure most come back rejected, but, hey; I'M GETTING MAIL! These days, in my neighborhood, you can tell when the mail is late, 'cause you'll see me and a bunch of old ladies out on the curb, looking up and down the street, crawarking, "Where the hell is he?"

Todd Mason,(in*sit), PRETTY OBSCURE:

To try to let people know of some whole areas of human endeavor they may not have realized existed, or might have blithely ignored or misunderstood. To let off steam, or other kinds of pressure...Frederik Pohl quoted James Branch Cabell in the former's autobiography, the latter describing a writer shouting, "I am pregnant with words; I must have lexicological parturition, or die!" My half-hearted efforts have yet to identify the Cabell work (Pohl doesn't say where he found it), but I've found I share the feeling with the pompous little character. Since I like to write of matters of little interest to People Weekly readers, from perspectives that (I hope) do not to stroke conventional prejudices, and tend to write in sentences of 25+ words, my work is not (on the whole) eagerly sought. (Not that it's all that good, yet, mind you) So, gotta self-publish and publish with friendly others, for those who might put up with it.

To try to tell as much truth as possible. To spend money to keep the tree-killers and federal postal bureaucrats fat and happy. To learn, and to have some obscure something-or-other survive me.

Kurt Beaulieu,L'ECHO DES CHANTIERS:

When I was in college, I was a contributor to the student paper. I was on good terms with the editors, and they allowed me to publish every cartoon I wanted. (Well, almost everything they refused the cats in the cafeteria, but let me run "Marc Andre in the Land of the Mecanorma Men")

So passed a year. But after that came new editors. They wanted "positive" and "socially responsible" material in their rag. I was welcomed to stay, as long as I did grinning, muscle-bound, clean-cut boys and blonde, voluptuous, happy girls. Anyway, they found my stuff too weird, obviously they don't know real weirdness!

So. That's what got me to publish "L'echo Des Chantiers," to get my vision of the world across, most of my readers then and some of them now don't get it. Sometimes I don't myself! But mainly it was feeding my ego then, it still does.

Simeon Stylites, FEH!:

Why publish? I am an evil man. FEH! is one of the very few activities in my life that redeems me, to some small extent. After I die, it will be one tiny weight on the positive side of the scales—outweighed a thousandfold by my rotting, gangrenous soul, but not without significance.

Well, there's that, and there's the fact that spreading the word of FEH! to the multitudes, revealing the FEH! dirt-wisdom to the unknowing, is one part—my part—of the Great Work of Humanity! FEH! will *clear* the mist from in front of the eyes of the people! They will *read* the *word* of FEH! and be *saved*! *Saved* from the muck and silliness of ordinariness and everyday life and its cut-and-chop-and-lock-away-into-neat-compartments way of thinking! *Saved* from the people who order us to fear soil! Saved from those who call themselves *poets*, but instead spend their time shooting rhetoric-arrows randomly out into the world! FEH! is the genuine, universal lie, which is far more meaningful than truth! FEH! is (my small contribution to) *the salvation of the world!*

That's why.

Pope George Ringo II, **BLOODGRAVE'S GRIM TIMES:**

Originally, my ultimate goal was that of fame. I aspired to have a column in **MAXIMUM ROCKNROLL**, thereby obtaining transcendental illumination, or somesuch. To me, it seemed that the published word was the only way for a scrawny egghead like me to get involved in "the scene." I didn't have the musical/poetic talent even to play in a boring 3-chord hardcore band, I didn't have the muscle or aggression to be King of the Pit, I didn't have the financial background to be a promoter or distributor, I didn't even have the connections and outgoing personality required to be a decent Scene Reporter. So, what was left but columnist?

Well, as I became more aware of the realities of "the scene" and a bit more confident in my abilities, I lost interest in my once lofty goal (this may have partly resulted from meeting some **MRR** columnists and realizing that they were still limited to mortal confines). But still, I had this desire to write, and a fair amount of time on my hands (senior in High School) and no desire to start trying to become a "mainstream" writer. I realized that I could probably do a zine, and use that as my stepping stone to Godishness.

So I began by contacting a few friends that were sort of, like, in the scene or something and got them to send me stuff. Then I got real drunk and wrote zine reviews for an hour or so and signed them under a different name. Suddenly I realized that I had no idea what was involved in producing a zine. I knew it had something to do with typing all this stuff up and taking it to a photocopier, but what about illustrations and pictures and those lines that divide columns? Well, realizing that there was more work involved than previously imagined, and besides it was nearly time to go to college, I decided to stop work for a "little while" and promptly forgot about the thing.

About 8 months later, I was reminded of it by someone, and I decided to give it another shot. Having been introduced to the concept of "layouts" by seeing my boyfriend's zine in the unfinished stage, I started pasting down my written stuff alongside what interesting pictures I found in **OMNI** and **THE DRAGON**. I still might never have finished if not for the publication of Mike Gunderloy's book, **HOW TO PUBLISH A FANZINE**, which may have saved me 5 or 6 times its ridiculously expensive cover price.

Now, 3 issues later (soon to be 4), I have to stop and ask myself, "Why am I doing this?" Last Quarter I was getting college credit for it so I had a pressing reason to go on. Now, however, I can't use that excuse. It is even partly responsible for my not being a full-time student this Quarter. Certainly it is taking up a good deal of time I could be spending on something that actually makes me money. It also generates more expenses than I can handle in terms of postage.

Well, OK, there's a bunch of reasons, which I will try to keep as short as possible:

#1 Mail: I hate empty mailboxes, the sight of one can depress me for days. Publishing a zine ensures I get at least *something* (even if it's just junk mail) more or less every day.

#2 A reason to write: I never feel like I'm doing enough writing, if I ever want to live off of it (save for writing Supermarket novels, which I am not planning on). None of my classes ever want me to write the sort of thing I wanna write. Having to come up with something every issue gives me a reason to spend lots of time in front of a word processor, desperately trying to come up with another idea or two.

#3 Getting zines for free: People I've never heard of send me all kinds of cool stuff, and I don't have to come up with cash, just a zine in exchange. It's incredible.

#4 Cross-Pollinization (Sorry, Mike): One of my ideas is to introduce some of the fragmented subcultures of the world (punk rock, sci-fi, anarchist, surrealist, Discordian, pagan, etc.) to aspects of one another. There seems to be too much of a tendency for people to ignore how relevant other "scenes" can be to their own lives. I want to show some of these strange people that they and their friends aren't the only ones doing weird stuff.

#5 Self-importance: Hey, it's great to introduce myself as a zine editor, and whip out one o' those suckers to show off how cool I am. If I said, "I'm a writer," all I could show them is un-published manuscripts. A zine is way cooler.

BT Elder, **FAR CORNER/OBSCURE RESEARCH LABS** It all started way back in the mists of time and third grade, when I did a science fair project on UFO's. Really. It was very detailed, discussing the several theories (misidentification, lenticular clouds, little grey men) that were then supposed to account for this Truly Amazing Subject. Of course, this didn't sit too well with the more normal of my classmates, who used to call me rude names and threaten me for pointing out the narrowness of their puny reality. Ha! Fools! What did they know about the wonders of throwing a frisbee into the air and showing the resultant photos to their sisters to PROVE the SHOCKING TRUTH?! They'd quake their little booties if they only knew the Startling Faxts! (I know I did).

Cut to twenty years later. Working around the clock, my memory tells me that I have been engaged in lots and lots of reading and electronic scanning. In fact, I have even started a "cult," if you will—Obscure Research Labs. As far as I can tell, I received the inspiration during one of the Oxygen Substitution Experiments of late 1988. It seems that I perceived the world as being composed of two types of people—those who scour the Matrix of Data for cool and nifty Information to disseminate, and those who, upon receipt of such disseminations, say "Wow." AND FROM THAT MOMENT FORTH, I VOWED TO BE COUNTED AMONG THE FORMER!

Fortunately, due to my chemically superior intellect, I have managed to invent/discover two pieces of Key Equipment that aid me (or us, I should say—the science-monks of Obscure Research Labs) in the Quest: Firstly, there is the Anachreator, which lets us send a semi-sentient sympathoprobe into any part of the past. (Otherwise, we would never have discovered that the egg predates the chicken by several million years). This device is not without its flaws, since the past (on close examination) seems to be made up of agreed-upon conventions and is hence much like the Future. (Of course, only a fool would pass up this opportunity to gain amazing luck at the races; how else could we pay the electric bill? Science isn't exactly cheap) While this may seem like a flaw to some people, the basic operating principle allowed the development of our other Key Prodcut—The Channeltron.

The Channeltron is a device that enables its user to dial in and converse with any entity on any reality level whatsoever. It comes in handy for settling the odd bar bet and getting the "inside dope" from the People Who Were/Are/Will Be There. And it is one of the reasons why we at Obscure Research Labs publish our newsletter and pamphlets. With access to the Secrets of Existence, nay the very Akashic Record Player itself, we would be idiots not to share the knowledge we possess. And knowledge is what it's all about. In fact, our latest project is an attempt to distill the world's knowledge into an assimilable form (say a pill or something) and feed it to a suitable subject (say myself). On the one hand, my head might explode. On the other hand, I might become God. Either way it should be interesting, so I would like to invite all readers of FF to send everything they know to Obscure Research Labs, PO Box 15266, Santa Rosa, CA 95402. And that will give us another answer to the oft-asked question, WHY PUBLISH?

Don W. Seven, **baby sue**: We publish to amuse ourselves. We also publish **baby sue** to reflect the continuing decline of morality in modern society—as well as to confuse stupid people.

Compulsion is a motivating force. We've been putting out booklets and magazines for over seven years now. Our incentive has never been to make money. We value being able to express ourselves in any fashion we choose, and we would never compromise this to have our work produced in mass quantity by some corporation or publishing house.

As corporations and the government gain more and more control of what we see and hear, the dissemination of information through undergound channels has become an increasingly viable and important format for communication. I feel that underground publications are an important way of communicating with others who happen to be out there...somewhere. How else would I have ever heard of Ace Backwords, Roy Tomkins, Mary Fleener, or even Factsheet Five? I'd much rather know what's happening in the world on a small-scale—than the large-scale-level.

CRIME PAYS

by Misha

Illustration by David Memmot

Undercover Willie. Extract from a tape made.

Let's not speak hypothetically sir. I wasn't. You mean to say learning to play the kazoo was mandatory. Yes sir. It was. Everybody knows. But Shadowman, you wrap your face in bandaging tape. Underneath, you're still the same. Invisibly honest. Dented lockers. Broken glass. Red appreciation in crystalline shards of pain. The system supports the system. Stealing a battery more heinous than beating a child. Top priority. Schools ruined by abuse. Nobody knows. A wilderness of incest, electric green. Hatching in glass spheres for Undercover William. There's a child ground into the gears of the system. Honeycombed with fear. A badge is pinned to a thick rhino skin. The pathological horn. The aphrodasical substance of lusts and violences. Small town power play in spherical globules. The Smokeman waits. His breath is so much shadowshine. Cold blue heat. Undercover Willie reaches a thin hand and pulls the shade against his glare. A whiff of old yellow insinuates into the classroom. A pretty picture tarnished with greed. Fifty rhinoceri overshadowing the diminished child. Educational system eclipsing reason to protect itself from itself. Shrieking chalkboards, shattered pencils, muddy hands. A wisp of chalk dust screening the action. No place for a child to hide. Under risk of limb or life, the psychotic teacher dreams of being sacrificed to satan; the glint of bastard swords as they flash down. His whole life a wet dream of sexual death at the hands of young boys. Sweaty boys with somber faces and crimson hands. Undercover Willie, the pen is the mighty blade. Conceal the stench of your depravity. Write an essay on what you did last year. Define "married tin." Read it out loud. Let the whole class see it. Your name, in big international lights. Hold out the palm of your hand. Calculate the diameter of the stain on your salamander's soul. Long division. Willie, show us your home work. In the shadow a veiled sword draws. Anointed steel. Undercover Willie—step up to the front of the class. Spell

r-e-
m-u-
n-e-
r-a-
t-i-
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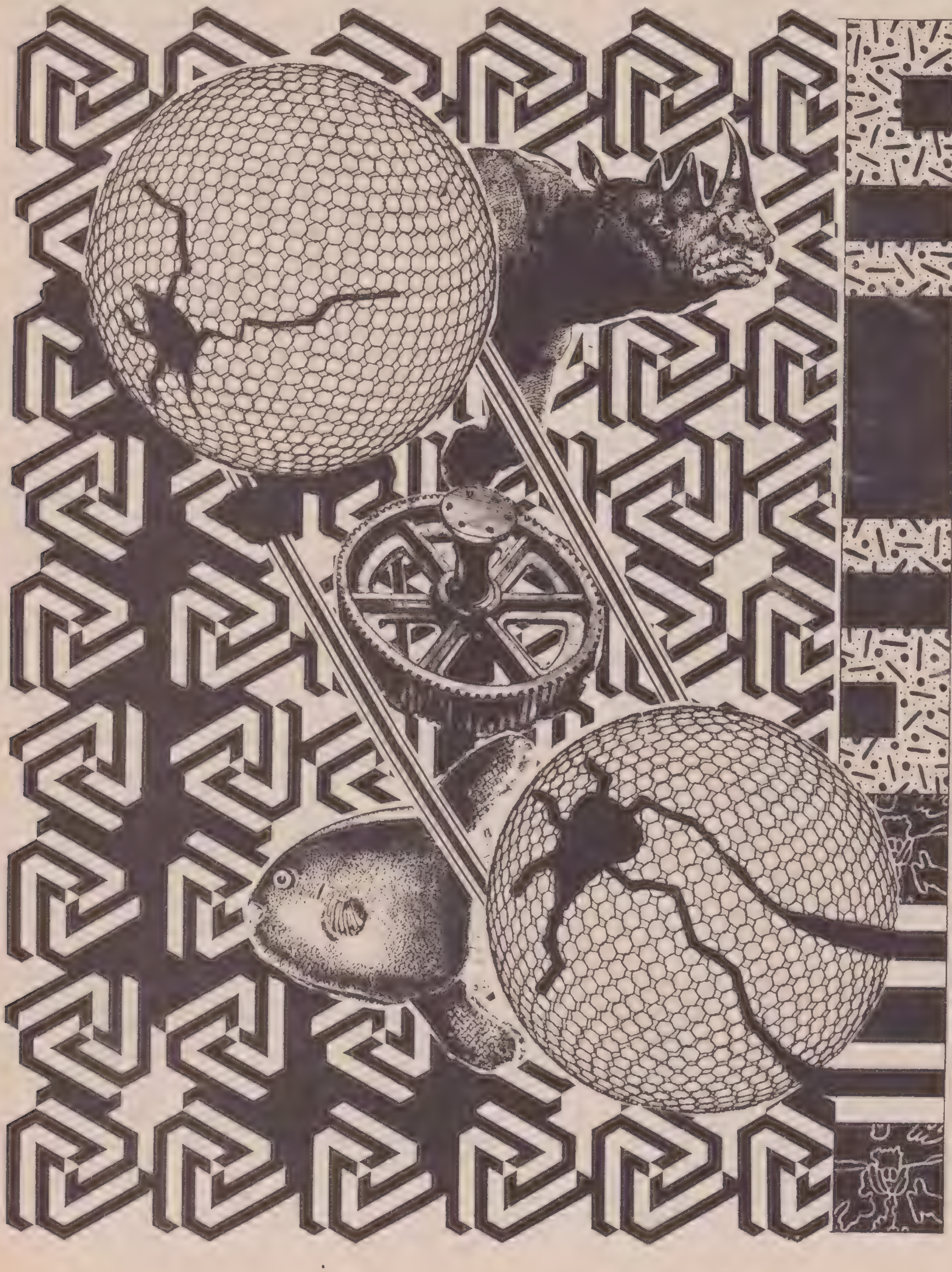
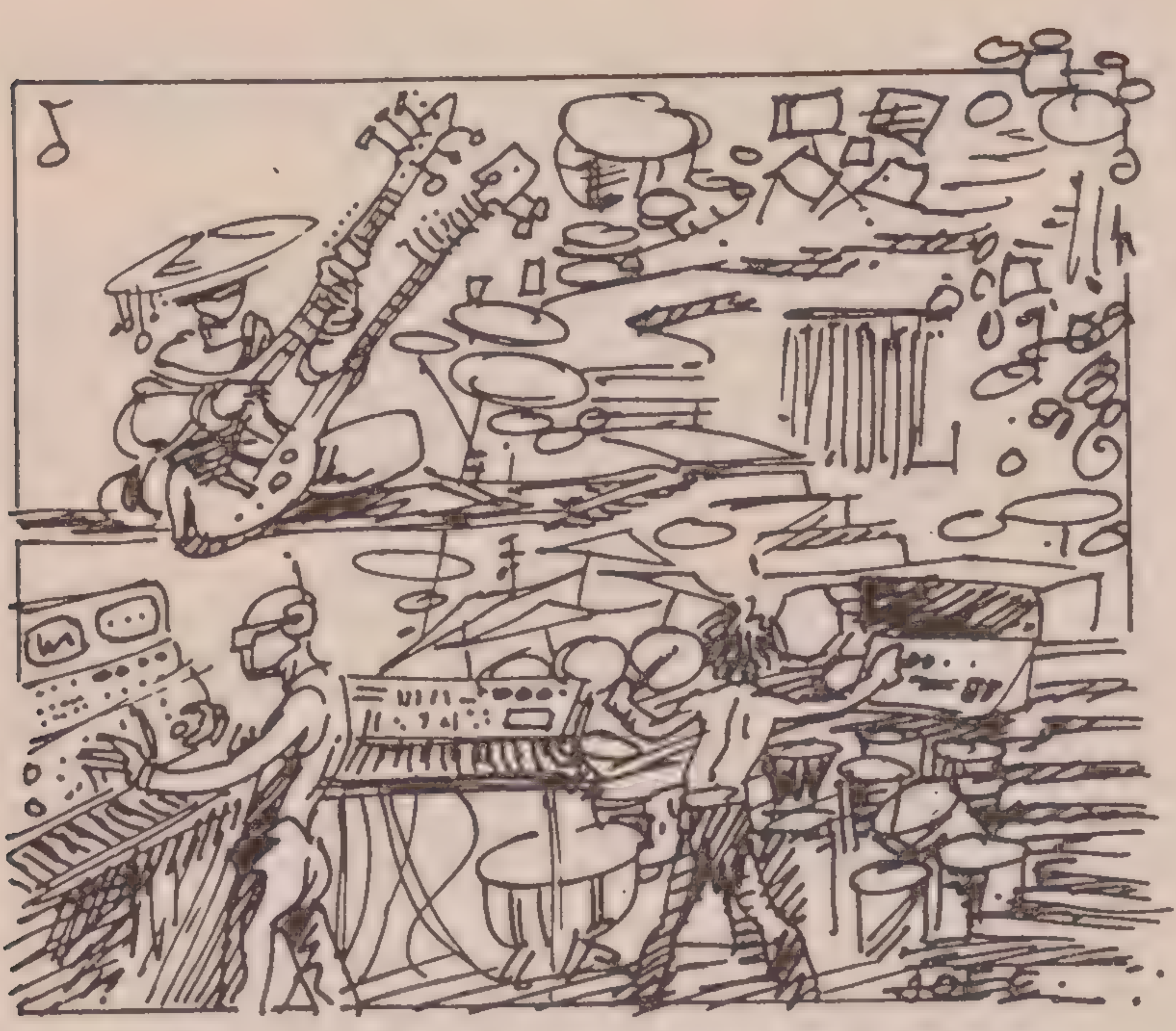




AUDIO REVIEWS

Music reviews are by PJ Bellomo (pj), Kevin Byrne (KMB), L.J. Cunningham (LJC), Karin Falcone (KF), Tom Gogola (TG), The Æditor (MG), Ken Johnson (KJ), William Meckley (WM), Jay Mentes (JCM), Carol Schutzbank (CS), Kyle Silfer (KS), Dina Williams (DW), and Phil Zampino (PMZ).

★★★★★

THE 14TH WRAY, "Demo-lition" (Alan Wright, 23 Nelson St. #3, Kingston, ONT, K7L 3W6, CANADA): Garage punk psychedelic sludge, recorded in low fidelity four track but still bursting with fun. With fuzz guitars and lots of vocal harmonies (plus the occasional help from things like the kazoo) they put together five tracks of silliness and amusement, not to mention a bit of old-fashioned devil-may-care sludge. (T/MG)

★★★★★

24-7 SPYZ, "Gumbo Millenium" (In-Effect, 187-07 Henderson Ave., Hollis, NY 11423): More hot music fromthe Spyz, who've added even more strange genres than on their previous "Harder Than You". Besides the potent hard-rock-hip-hop mix, they throw in a bit of polka, some spoken word, thrash and who knows what else. It's an exciting album, with songs on army life, the environment, racism, and standing tall and proud. Cool music, fine lyrics, changeup melodic noise, what more could you ask for? (CD/MG)

★★★★★

27 DEVILS JOKING, "Smells Like Fun" (Dionysus Records, P.O. Box 1975, Burbank, CA 91507): A respectable third album from this Santa Fe band. 27 Devils Joking play music in the middle ground between metal and hardcore and just when you think you have them figured out, the shift gears again. Nothing on this release caught my ear, but fans will no doubt enjoy it. (LP/KJ)

★★★★★

THE 3-D INVISIBLES, "The Won't Stay Dead!" (Neurotic Bop, 1316 w. Marshall, Ferndale, MI 48220): This here is that type of thang inspired by pulp sci-fi and B-Horror celluioid. Slimy garage fuzz-a-billy trio stewed with a hungry heap of bariscratch yelp crooning that seems more specialized than special. From the first cut, "They Won't Stay Dead!" through the last one, "Nosferatu," reanimated are all the ghoulish hooks and cadaverous icons of a bored trash culture that is not yet dead. Well, you get the picture. (LP/JCM)

★★★★★

THE 5 O'CLOCK SHADOWS, self-titled ($3.00 from Zadfruc Tapes, PO Box 3592, Oak Park, IL 60302): Husky 60"s semi-psychedelic pop with quaintly quirky fold overtones. Pleasantly catchy and very enjoyable. (T/CS)

★★★★★

ADRENALIN O.D., "Ishtar" (Restless Records, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): Perhaps on the theory that the best defense is a good offense, the press release for this record mentions that the band "walk a fine line between legendary and dismal". Unfortunately the defense doesn't work; this recording is definitely on the dismal side. It sounds like they went to the studio out of duty rather than inspiration, and the result is a limp and powerless collection of dopy lyrics, lackluster guitars, and a vocal delivery reminiscent of a used car salesman. Pass it up. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

AFTERBIRTH, "Medical Waste" and "Baby Rasta" (Black & Blue Records, 400-D Putnam Pike #152, Smithfield, RI 02917): I'm afraid that "Baby Rasta", which makes up the majority of this disk, is pretty forgettable; it takes a simple point (that baby talk and rasta lyrics can be made to sound the same) and pounds it into the ground. "Medical Waste", though couched in more patently offensive terms, has a stronger social point to it. A combination of rock and reggae with more gimmick than shine. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

ALCOHOLICS UNANIMOUS, "Hangover Cure" (Brilliancy Prize Records, PO Box 42376, Portland, OR 97242): A compendium of material from AU's seven-inch records as well as some unreleased tapes, this is a good introduction to the powerful sands of this band. They maintain a sloppy hardcore edge, and while they do seem to glorify drinking, there's a satirical edge to their music not found in the work of other drunkcore bands (Gang Green springs to mind). Check out "Santa Claus: DWI" and "Grandfather Was a Drunk (before there was punk)" as well as the semi-cover tune "Drinking In The Mens Room". (T/MG)

★★★★★

ALL, "Trailblazer" (Cruz Records, PO Box 7756, Long Beach, CA 90807): This album is not named from any hope of pioneering new musical frontiers; rather, it's the brand name of the band's preferred portable toilet. The live music here lives up to the expectations that generates, bellowing along, putting together plenty of power chords, and ultimately not amounting to a whole lot. All is popular, but I'm darned if I see why. A very flat musical experience, without punch or variety. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

ANTERO ALLI, "Babes in the Abyss" ($8 from Antero Alli, PO Box 45758, Seattle, WA 98145): Atmospheric solo piano music both improvised and meant to be listened to "in pitch black darkness." While I haven't quite followed the artist's directions in evaluating this tape, I found it a satisfying and unpretentious soundtrack for a drive through New England on an overcast late spring day. In the dark, it might be another story entirely. Find out for yourself. It's good. (T/KS)

★★★★★

G.G. ALLIN, "Always Was, Is and Always Shall Be" ($7.99 from Black & Blue Records, 400D Putnam Pike #12, Smithfield, RI 02917): Those who only know GG as the king of trash rock might be amazed by this vintage album, backed by the Jabbers. It's mainly straightforward rock, loud and furious, with only hints of things to come on songs like "Gimmie Some Head". "Dead or Alive" is a great nihilistic rocker, and eerily presages his current promise to kill himself on stage. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

ALTER NATIVES, "Buzz" (SST Records, PO Box 1, Lawndale, CA 90260): SST's newest found niche that sometimes works is experimental jazz rock, improv such as Richmond, Virginia's Alter Natives are. This five-track contains lots of prominent guitar riffs by Greg Ottinger that is a fine bridge between rock and jazz. Alter Natives perform instrumentals that start on the melodic note then the trio throw themselves into a frenzy of solos. The tunes grind to a spaced-out, hell bent at times, gelled sound. The music has a good projection of what Alter Natives would sound like live. "Buzz" is for those who enjoy good guitar solos. (T/KMB)

★★★★★

ANGUISHED SOCIETY, "Start With Yourself" ($4 from 33 Rivervale Rd., Middletown, NY 10940): Cool thrash hardcore music, well executed by a band that never lets the pace flag. "Hitler's Dead" lashes out at the neo-Nazis on the scene, while "Bow to the Porcelain God" is about everyone's favorite party pastime. Their namesake tune is perhaps the strongest here, a hard-driving thrash rant about all the things wrong with the world we've built. (T/MG)

★★★★★

ANNIHILATOR, "Never, Neverland" (Roadracer Records, 225 Lafayette St. #709, New York, NY 10012): A killer metal album with some of the best vocals I've heard in a long time; most of the songs here are clear even without a lyric sheet (unusual in a metal album). The band has a changeup style that delivers both melodic pieces and death metal nasties. "Stonewall" is an excellent environmental song (though not likely to get much play at rallies where Holly Near is more familiar fodder), while "Kraf Dinner" descends into humor with an ode to macaroni and cheese. Stands out well above most of the metal sludge being produced today. (T/MG)

★★★★★

ANTISEEN, "Two Headed Dog" b/w "'Cause I Love You" (Ajax Records, PO Box 146882, Chicago, IL 60614): Heavy handed rock in the 70's tradition with an ugly, thickly sung vocal style. Both tunes are covers, starting with Roky Erikson's "Two Headed Dog," ground out with guitar and plodding drums, while plowing through the completely unintelligible lyrics, except the chorus: 'Two Headed Dog.' The b side is a cover of the Sutch/Page "'Cause I Love You." The vocals are harsher here, but the sound is still thick, heavy and oddly listless considering the noise these guys are making. The scrub board solo failed go any distance in warming me to this short blast of obnoxious rock. (45/PMZ)

★★★★★

THE AQUANETTAS, "Love With A Proper Stranger" (Nettwerk/IRS, 3939 Lankershim Blvd, Universal City, CA 91604): A warpedly more aggressive girl grouping with chops along the line of The Pandoras, the Go-Go's, and The Bangles but more hip, more knowing and more hard-driving. The songs are a little more sparse, less "pop" and more "rawness" here...(as if the aforementioned bands had their edges scrubbed off with a layer of NYC dirt Velvet Undergroundish types) (LP/CS)

★★★★★

AREKNUTEKNYTERNE, "Hos Fotografen" ($5.50 from Hypertonia World Enterprises, Jan R. Bruun, PO Box 4307, N-5008, Bergen, Norway): Interspersed with cut-ups of French voice, this two man group creates guitar based music rooted in rock but flavored with a strong dose of quirkiness. With a strong instrumental approach, vocals are used in straightforward and deliberately weird ways over music ranging from rock to folky acoustics, from almost pop to hardcore, with a liberal amount of experimentalism tossed in. The cut-ups occassionally lead into a piece, as in the bizarre "A Child Is Born," which emulates a woman in labor moaning above a suspended tone, while women speak and laugh in almost witch-like manners. A comglomerate of languages, English, French and German mingle freely amongst the excellent music and experiments that these two assemble and play. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

ARTILLERY, "Terror Squad" & "Fear of Tomorrow" (RC Records, 225 Lafayette St. #709, New York, NY 10012): A reissue of two early albums by this powerful Danish thrash metal band. It's an amazing amount of loud music, with plenty of guitars, lots of show-off riffs, and a strong drum line as well. This re-release is top build interest for their coming new album, and it should do that quite well. (T/MG)

★★★★★

ASAP, "Silver and Gold" (Enigma Records, P.O. Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231): ASAP (as in "turn this tape off as soon as possible") is largely distinguished by an Eddie Money clone for a lead singer, lyrical sentences shorter than those found in most children's books, and Ringo Starr's kid on drums! Zak Starkey seemed to inherit his father's talent for exotic drumming patterns and former Iron Maiden singer/guitarist Adrian Smith adds the grandiose guitar riffs that characterize this genre. Did Foreigner change their name and add a few new faces? (T/KJ)

★★★★★

DAN ASHWANDER, "Ashwander Healing Tape" ($7 from Donna Kossy, PO Box 953, Allston, MA 02134): Dan Scott Ashwander is God, Jesus Christ, and the man to whom John Kennedy was referring to at a press conference when he said "We have control of the mind". Or so Ashwander says at length on this tape, which also includes material on his soul, the character of Heaven, the churches angels belong to, and so on. There's even the revelation that everyone else in the world is a secret Nazi, except for Ashwander and (perhaps) his listeners. For $10 Donna will throw in the written version of Ashwander's schizophrenic ravings. Or you can just buy this, put your hands on your cassette player for three minutes, and be healed. (T/MG)

★★★★★

BABYLON DANCE BAND, "Someday" b/w "Rubbertown" (Trash Flow Records, 411 First Street, Hoboken, NJ 07030): Side one is catchy, punky college rock full of nervous energy emphasized by the fast-paced throbbing buzz of the guitar. It ends as though it's ready to explode. Side two picks up on that nervous jittery energy and follows through, developing into a jangly, speed-fested college rock humdinger of an instrumental piece. (45/CS)

★★★★★

SARAH BAKER, "Self-titled" (Firenze Records, 1827 Haight St. #65, San Francisco, CA 94117): This woman is someone you can't target to one genre as debut work shows very well. Sarah Baker comes across as a country performer but that's not the only style in her bag of tricks because "Got My Reasons" is a slow blues number, while "Another Door" recalls Aretha Franklin. This record gives you a taste of accordion, acoustic piano, and harmonica. Sarah Baker's voice is firm in all the right places and she proves herself a solid performer on the track "Until The Last Goodbye." "Livewire" is a good upbeat rocker that would make Lou Ann Barton pleased. This release just goes to show that you can't judge a record by its cover. (T/KMB)

★★★★★

BALZAC FROWNING, "Happy Mind" b/w "Turning Circles" & "I Don't Like the Sound of That" (Fishfur Records, 142 E. 16th St, Suite 2-G, NY, NY 10003) Opening this four piece band's single, vocalist and pianist Kahte welcomes you to her "Happy Mind," backed with harmonies from drummer Christy, where solid guitar riffs and relaxed rhythm work make an upbeat, positive song. Breathy vocal harmonies in "Turning Circles" end the first side, singing a pleasant song over piano and acoustic guitar. "I Don't Like the Sound of That" uses melodic progressions under mildly distorted riffs, relaxed bass work and a simpler vocal sound, nicely harmonized. A pretty piano melody leads us out of a single that never evokes the frowning attitude of this band's chosen name. (45/PMZ)

★★★★★

BAREFOOT, self-titled (Global Pacific Records, PO Box 2001, Sonoma, CA 95476): Light, dance-based music incorporating multi-percussion, flute and other instruments. African and Latin influences abound. The meandering tunes are a little too new-agey for my tastes but the rythmic aspects are exciting and often compelling. Great putzing-about-the-house music. (CD/WM)

★★★★★

JOHN BENNETT, "Live Chains" (Luna Bisonte Productions, 137 Leland Ave., Columbus, OH 43214): Several different versions of a Bennett set of poems titled "Chain", from just his voice (which is an expression-filled instrument itself) up to a full backing of improvisational jazz noise madness. The poems are classic Bennett, appearing sensible for a phrase or two and then veering off into madness and paranoia. "The Shirt The Sheet", an interpolated piece, goes on too long for my tastes, but then perhaps the descent into madness wasn't meant to be fast. (T/MG)

★★★★★

JELLO BIAFRA WITH D.O.A., "Last Scream of the Missing Neighbors" ($7.50 from Alternative Tentacles, PO Box 11458, San Francisco, CA 94101): Some records make you want to get up and slam around the room. This one will make you want to kick some butt while you're doing it. With strong musical backing from D.O.A., Jello lays into the censors and the warmongers and the racists and the other creeps in power. Strong words for a strong time, enhanced by Winston Smith jacket graphics and the No More Censorship insert. Get it. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

BIMBO SHRINEHEADS, self-titled (Tulpa Productions, PO Box 860, Willimantic, CT 06226) Fronted by the 'eclectic bitch' on guitar and voice, this trio plays hard hitting rock in a style heavily influenced by Sonic Youth, although with a rawer, more forceful vocal style. The songs confront hard issues in "A Rape Poem", "Implosion" and "How to Get Fucked Up the Ass With a Flag and Smile and Be Really Happy and Grateful", relaxing only in the final of the four tunes, "Fig & Rita." Strong playing with feedback/ effect drenched passages and high energy drumming and bass work make this angry and intelligent single worth having. (7"/PMZ)

★★★★★

BLACK INDIAN, "Motorcycle Woman" b/w "Garden of Hate" (War Party Records, 2921 Shirley Lane, Oklahoma City, OK 73116): This is space-grunge with a slimy edge full of all the hatred one could hope to conjure up. It reminded me of the "trip" section of "Time Has Come Today" with a raucous, Stooges-like sneer to it, and a reference to Sonic Youth: "now all is quiet, no more Teenage Riot." Fine listenin'.(45/TG)

★★★★★

BLAZE BROWN'S FOOD FIGHT OF THE GODZS "Comp #1" (I.M.I., 617 N. Upland Ave, Metairie, LA 70003): Madness in the SubGenius vein extracted from mixmaster Brown's radio program. He throws in new wave music, industrial dance, Mojo Nixon, ranting about freedom and censorship, harsh noises, and a good deal of unidentifiable noise. Some of the juxtapositions work well, and the dull stretches are kept to a minimum by the rapid pace of the program. There are also some cunningly concealed SubGenii here, to add to the air of unreality. (T/MG)

★★★★★

BLAZE BROWN'S FOOD FIGHT OF THE GODZ, "Radio Comp #2" (I.M.I., 617 N. Upland Ave, Metairie, LA 70003): From the weird world of radio comes this sample sensory overload, a "colliding collage" of sound constructed of fast-paced layers of voice and music, pasted together with great skill and timing. Many of the sources are well known—Negativland, Zappa, Giorno—along with preachers, interviews, kids records, Subgenius parpahernalia, and countless others. A few of the artists are credited on the insert, but most are not, which may disturb sample ethicists; even I was suprised at the length of some of the lifts, and I care less then most regarding such issues. Obviously so does Blaze, and his "anti-©" and "all rights reversed" comments clearly define his stance. But regardless of the moralities involved, this is one wacky tape. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

BLUE, "Welcome to the Nineties" (Sanity Check Music, PO Box 527, Front Royal, VA 22630): Contemporary slightly technoid rock from a new face with a good sense of lyric. The anti-PMRC "121", the eerie "Lost in a Graveyard" and the anti-racist "The Perfect Race" are all worth a listen. Perhaps a bit overproduced and artificial, but not at all bad for a first album. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

BLUES TRAVELER, self-titled (A&M Records, PO Box 118, Hollywood, CA 9007): Citified bluesy rock (though as the absurd spraypaint cover will tell you, at least some of the urbanity is image rather than grit). It's made worthwhile mainly by the harmonica and lead vocals of John Popper, behind whom the rest of the group is mostly backup. "Dropping some NYC", though nearly meaningless, is where they build up the most steam. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

BOREDOMS, "Soul Discharge" (Shimmy Disc, IAF Box 1187, NY, NY 10116): From the yelping vocal cut up that quickly starts this insanity, you know you're in for bizarre and frantic craziness. Boredoms, who are certainly not, are from Japan, but there is no language barrier posing a problem to the ranting exhibited on this record. The 'tunes' stop and start with screams, moans, and general excess over a base of destructed roots rock that brings out the best of Pussy Galore or The Butthole Surfers, but goes further than either. Not for the timid, this may be the next step in hyper-ecstatic musical sickness. (LP/PMZ)

★★★★★

THE BOZFOR, self-titled (Hypnobeat, Siemensstr. 18, D-8560 Lauf, WEST GERMANY): Percussive pop with a rather dark and downbeat texture to it. Vocalist Annette (who also did the cover painting) has a voice a bit reminiscent of Nina Hagen's, though the antics are less extreme. Dreamy and intricate pieces alternate with some fairly straightforward pop. Nothing too fancy, but enjoyable and interesting. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

BRAINBOMBS, self-titled ($5 from Really Fast, Box 6170, S-10233 Stockholm, SWEDEN): Very heavy industrial NYC dirge barrage of noise and attitude. The songs convey a dual impression of hip chaos and laid back cacophony. Very in keeping with the whole Ut/Sonic Youth or Live Skull style of music but a little more uncompromising. (45/CS)

★★★★★

BRAINLESS, "98 Songs That All Sound the Same" ($2 from David Schall, PO Box 2143, Stow, OH 44224): Well, I didn't check the count, but otherwise the title is definitely accurate. Electric guitar torture and grunts combine into short bursts of not-really-musical static, each lasting only a few seconds (the entire tape is under 25 minutes). Might make interesting backgrounds on Halloween, but otherwise this is a listening experience without much depth. (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE BREATHERS, "Rain Down" (Sheisterfest Records, 129 Lindsey Court, Franklin Park, NJ 08823): Very youthful, cleancut, pretty college boy-meets-girl dance pop with a bit of a 5:00 shadow giving it character. Danceable, pop-oriented, very much of the MTV generation, but with enough of a rock aggressiveness to stop it from going too far. (EP/CS)

★★★★★

THE BREEDERS, "Pod" (4AD US, 611 Broadway #311, New York, NY 10013): This meld of personnel from Throwing Muses and Pixies strikes me as superior to the latter but not quite as good as the former. But that's splitting hairs, since this is a superb album, full of wild harmonies, dark bass playing, and an overall eeriness that goes well with their stripped-down pop sound. The strange lyrics emphasize this, and somehow when all the disparate pieces are baled together the result is a very enjoyable album. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

TED BUNDY'S, "Live: Death and Defecation" (Anarchy Records, PO Box 506, Lincoln Park, MI 48146) In the realm of GG Allin comes this live recording of thrash garage rock, taken from the soundtrack of a video (complete with a couple of dropouts). Ted Bundy's plays hate filled rock that attempts to address political and social issues, but falls short by simply griping. The band plays well enough, and one of the tunes was written with GG Allin, but as they imply to make a difference, they succeed only in bellowing. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

THE BUX, "Sunburned Fat" ($3 from PO Box 1837, Upland, CA 9178): Rather minimalist punk rock that barely fill out a four-track with their guitar/vocals/drums sound. A times it sounds like there are three different songs going on here, and some of the pieces simply wallow to a halt. But there are some promising tunes too, with "Feeding Seagulls" and "Soul" sounding pretty good. (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE CAIRO-PRAKTERS, "Spinal Chords" (Musical trades *only* from 3218 S. 4th Ave., Whitehall, PA 18052): Cheerfully absurd minimalist music that goes from the strange ("Cecil Whig and his Eyes of Terror") to the parodic ("Manuel's on Ice", about the deposed Panamanian dictator). A lot of these tunes would not be out of place on Dr. Demento, having the homespun humorous quality that fits well with not taking music seriously. Then there are the surreal cuts like "The Porcelain Squid Rides the Bus..." Unpredictable musical mayhem. (T/MG)

★★★★★

CALON, "Ligne de Vie: récits électriques" ($18 from Diffusion i MéDIA, 4487 Rue Adam, Montreal, QUE, H1V 1T9, CANADA): Avant-garde electronic music (the title translates as "Life Line: Electric Tales) in a semi-classical mode. The most intriguing piece here is the extended "Minuit", combining texts in a Joycean mode (though written in French) with eerie music, repetition, distortion. From beauty to delirium. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

CANNIBAL CORPSE, "Eaten Back to Life" (Metal Blade Records, 18653 Ventura Blvd. #611, Tarzana, CA 91356): I'm glad I listened to this death metal tape at home rather than in the car. Otherwise Chris Barnes' vocals might have worried me that the engine had serious bottom end trouble. He deconstructs appropriately nasty words (best title "Scattered Remains, Splattered Brains") over a neverending maelstrom of skullcrushing sludge guitars and pounding drums and bass. Not for the faint of heart. (T/MG)

★★★★★

LARRY CANSLER, "Indian Paintbrush" (Voss Records, 300 Esplanade Dr. #760, Oxnard, CA 93030): Quiet strong contemporary jazz rooted in a feeling for the expansive spaces of the American West. My favorite track is the intricate "Cliff Dwellers", six minutes that doesn't drag while swooping up the side of a lonely butte. There is plenty of work here, rooted in piano and light guitar playing, and expressing well the majesty of the landscape that was its inspiration. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

WILLIE MERLE CASH, "Green Chicken Swim" ($3 from Good Grub Productions, 805 Columbus, Austin, TX 78704): The hastily scrawled liner reflects the music: cocky and careless. Minus the offensively small-minded "I Hate Jazz," this is pretty good guitar rock rehash. I especially liked "It's a Small World After All," turned into a slow gritty war chant. The drum machine (no doubt stolen from the Pink Torpedoes, of whom Cash is a member) does not cut it. Only thirty-odd minutes of music, so don't bother turning the tape over. (T/KF)

★★★★★

CASSANDRA COMPLEX, "Finland" (Wax Trax, 1659 N. Damen Ave., Chicago. IL 60647): The only thing wrong with this record is that it;s not long enough, only five songs (even if they're all fairly long songs). Cassandra Complex combine some traditional instrumentation with keyboards and effects to create a very edgy music, one overlaid with the static of a world rushing headlong into technocracy. Combine this with lyrics of sidewise comment on real and virtual reality and a passionate dancebeat, and you've got music that sounds modern without being hokey. A band to watch. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

CASSETTE WRESTLING NEWS #32-34 ($3 from PO Box 765, Boonville, IN 47601): A more or less monthly pro wrestling bulletin done on cassette, featuring a mix of news and commentary. #32 spotlights an interview with Jerry "The King" Lawler, including some rather intemperate comments about wrestling critics in general. #34 leads off with discussion of whether it's time for the NWA to start bringing some new talent in to take the title. Unfortunately, the recording quality on these is abysmal; even with the volume all the way up, there are parts I can't make out. (T/MG)

★★★★★

CAVE CLOWN MICROWAVE, self-titled (403 Riverside Dr, Newport News, VA 23606): Home recording generates some odd tapes, and Cave Clown Microwave is a good example. What is lost in sound quality and musical complexity is made up for in variety and strangeness: 35 songs and tunes (60 minutes):, some only seconds in length, constructed of guitar, simple percussion, effected noises and muted voice. An insert includes lyrics, which is about the only way to figure out that the songs are warped descriptions of life, situations, absurdist dreams and messed love. The music is mostly guitar based, suitably odd, and though it doesn't always click, has a kind of consistency to it. Overall, a strange and friendly, if not always good, tape. (T/PMZ)

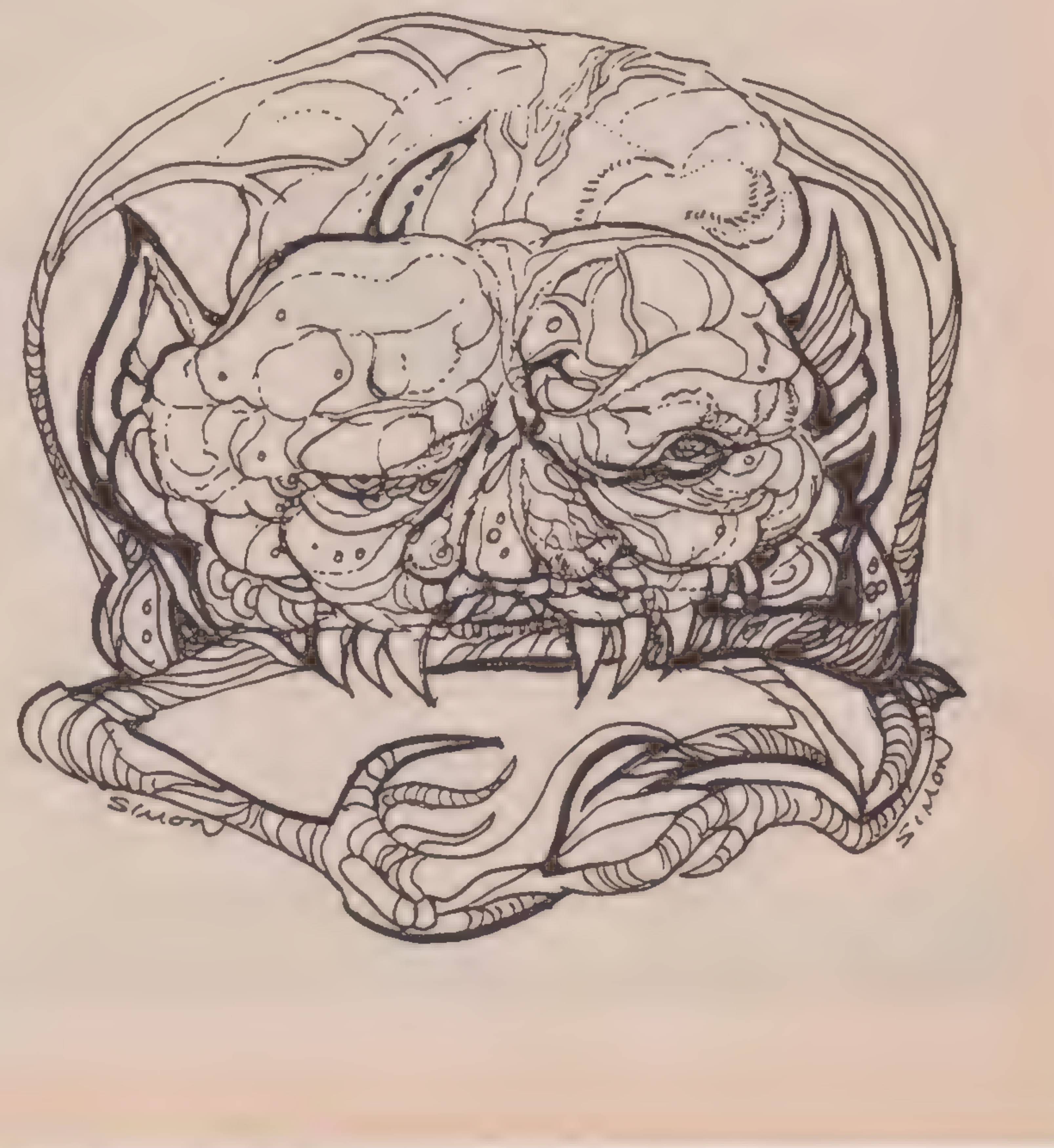
★★★★★

NICK CAVE & THE BAD SEEDS, "The Good Son" (Enigma Records, 11264 Playa Ct, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628) The 6th Cave & the Bad Seeds release continues to work with native blues and gospel roots, tempering the approach with the suprising addition of strings in a more acoustic setting. Cave's lyrical depth and darkness is well displayed here, sung with an emotional strength that demonstrates his development from a portrayer of sickness to a describer of subtlety. The strings and subdued approach, though well fitting the songs, may put off those seeking the shrieking past of this and Cave's prior bands, and I can empathise with those who'd prefer to hear sustained guitar sonics rather than strings. But songs as strongly defined as "The Hammer Song" or as anguished as "The Good Son" I'll accept as an important addition to Cave's repetoire. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

CELEBRATE THE NUN, "Meanwhile" (Enigma Records, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): Perky German pop music with a heavy dancefloor beat, plenty of light keyboards, and lyrics that won't strain anyone. I suspect producer Axel Henninger had a lot to do with this ound, as the similarities to the tape by Camouflage I reviewed a few issues ago attest. In any case, there's not a lot of depth here, but the music is pleasant, and obviously there is a market for this sort of thing, even if it is not particularly challenging. (T/MG)

★★★★★



CELEBRITY SKIN, self-titled (Triple X Records, 6715 Hollywood Blvd. #284, Hollywood, CA 90028): This band is so bad it must be a public relations joke ala Spinal Tap. Not only does the drummer strain to keep the beat on "S.O.S." but their glam rock costumes leave much to be desired. While you're listening to their EP, you can sign up to join the Celebrity Skin Fan Club and get free pictures, stickers and goodies. Lucky for us in the states, they cancelled their German tour to spend time here seeking the big time. For juveniles only. (EP/KJ)

★★★★★

CEREBRAL DISSONANCE, "Ascension" (The Acension Network, 2505 Cedar Rd, Lake Stevens, WA 98258) The first in a 4 part EP series that will be released on the second Monday of every third month of this year, this is sophisticated pop in a U2 vein that takes much of its sound from its weaving guitar, fretless bass and cool, complex drumming, overshadowed with drifting synth. In "That Time of Year" the urgent vocals describe the death of an unknown, contemplating his life and manner of death, and wondering at the narrator's involvement. "Downfall" continues the theme of death, and the cassette ends with "Too," an instrumental that presents a melodic eerieness that is subtle and strong. As a larger work, this is off to a good start; lack of printed lyrics is my only complaint in this otherwise well presented cassette. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

CEREBRAL DISSONANCE, "Desire" (The Acension Network, 2505 Cedar Rd, Lake Stevens, WA 98258) The second in a four part series of cassette ep's, the 3 songs of this cassette deal with love lost or departing. "Collapse" starts from the perspective of adulation and need of a woman for a man, the collapse being his death. This contrasts with "Origin," which moves from a man's restless sleep to find that his woman is gone; this is finalized in "Lost," where she returns only to depart once more, leaving him empty and despairing. A jazz instrumental closes the tape, shifting from cool relaxed comping to bop tinged trumpet. Line up the two cassettes of this series and a drawing of an older man begins to appears, who may be the man spoken of in "Desire," speculatively the theme emerging that of a retrospective of his life. Regardless, the songs hold up on their own as sophisticated and integrated music. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

GARY CHAMBERS, "Myth, Magic & Mystery" ($11.95 from Visionary Music, PO Box 11412, St. Petersburg, FL 33733-1412): This is New Age music par excellence, with jacket copy about Higher Consciousness and part of the profits going to save the rainforests. The music itself is pretty good too, synthesized melodies that surf the waves of consciousness, delve into jazz, and even bring in some ambient forest sounds. Pretty classy. (T/MG)

★★★★★

CHANGES TO BLIND, "Changes to Blind" ($5.00 ppd, PO Box 9437, Schenectady, NY 12309): You've got to warm up to a release that includes a note that says, "Side B of this cassette is blank. Feel free to put whatever you like on this side. Particularly if you think Changes to Blind's cassette sucks." As it so happens, though, they don't suck. Their music is a little like taking an acid trip through a contemporary Looking Glass. The songs take on weird shapes (courtesy of a variety of enhancements from electronic wah-wah noises to tv vocal clips) It moves briskly along, holding the attention for just the right amount of time before becoming burdensome. (T/CS)

★★★★★

CHASTAIN, "For Those Who Dare" (RC Records, 225 Lafayette St. #709, New York, NY 10012): Powerful hard rock fueled by the vocals of leather Leone and the lead guitar of David Chastain, together with a rhythm section of David Harbour and John Luke He'bert. This is a very polished album, sharp but not produced to death, depending on the abilities of the group rather than technical wizardry. Their one cover tune ("Barracuda") is a bit lackluster, but tracks like "Not Much Breathing" and "For Those Who Dare" more than make up for that. (T/MG)

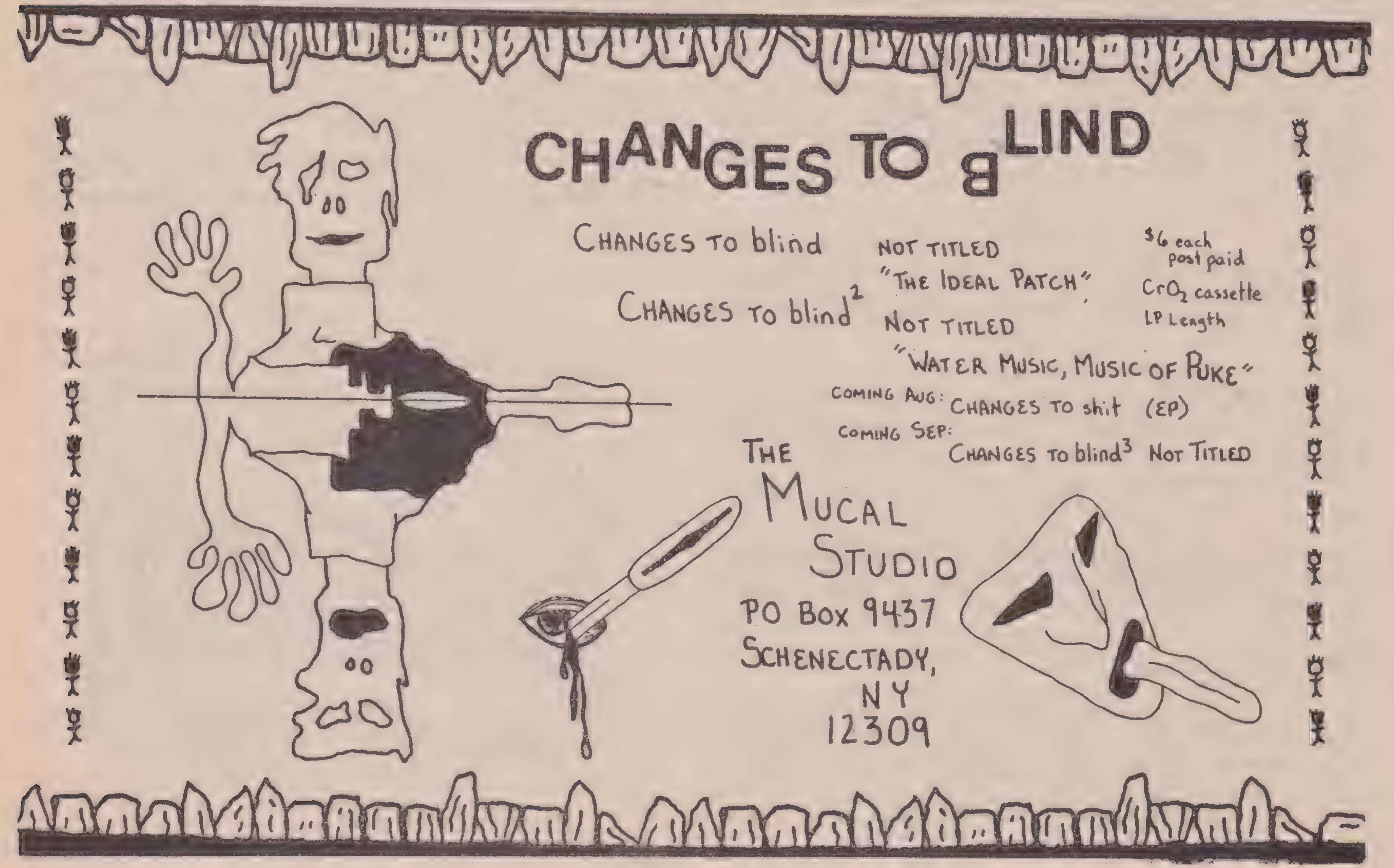
★★★★★

THE CHILLS, "Kaleidoscope World" (Dutch East India Trading, PO Box 800, Rockville Centre, NY 11571-0800. Originally released in 1986, this compilation of "eight songs from eight members from eight phases of the Chills," is back, courtesy of Homestead Records. If you got caught up in the mysterious, moody pop of "Submarine Bells" (their major label debut), this is a good place to trace the roots of this New Zealand outfit. Quietly engaging, with a deft touch and soulful songwriting, this earlier stuff is loose and comfortable, like an old pair of jeans with the knees worn out. Good hangover music.(LP/TG)

★★★★★

DAVE CLARK/WALTER DRAKE, "The Mesmerization of Water/Several Events Related to Wind" ($5 from 2805 E. 16th Ave. #5, Denver, CO 80206): Synthetic music based largely on keyboards and processed samples, with a bit of guitar thrown in for good measure. They play with the theta frequencies, trying to induce hypnogogic imagery. I can't report any visual results, but the long slow waves of music did help relax after a tense and tedious morning. (T/MG)

★★★★★



CHANGES TO BLIND

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"THE IDEAL PATCH"

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"WATER MUSIC, MUSIC OF PUKE"

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12309

DAVE CLARK/WALTER DRAKE "Ostentatiously Cautious";"Water, Sex, Sun, Dogs & Time" (2805 E. 16th Ave #5, Denver, CO 80206): Insidiously dark and subtle music, this electronic duo use samplers, delays, guitars and keyboards to generate an unfolding atmosphere of sound. Based around sustained and slowly oscillating tones, muted sounds appear, activate or shimmer, while improvised guitars and synths strike and sound distantly. The effect is quite heady at times, as the moods reverberate amongst layers of fluidity. While most of the titles are esoteric, some are quite evocative of the sound of the piece, as with the droning gentle water sounds, creaking boats and swaying anchors of "Port St. Augustine." Gentleness with a bite that evades monotony, this tape serves as the perfect accompaniment for a long night's work. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

JOHNNY CLEGG & SAVUKA, "Cruel, Crazy, Beautiful World" (Capitol, 1750 North Vine Street, Hollywood, CA 90028): Pop-rhythm ethno-African exhilaration on vinyl...A little more subdues than last year's "Shadow Man"...more polished and pop-oriented in some ways and less passionate because of it...(Clegg's political awareness is more submerged this outing in his bid for a larger reaching accessability)...but on the whole still a strong and joyously enjoyable release. (LP/CS)

★★★★★

CLOCK DVA, "Buried Dreams" (Wax Trax, 1659 N. Damen Ave., Chicago, IL 60647): Interesting slick industrial techno-dance music, with lyrics based on De Sade, Krafft-Ebing, Baudelaire and other intellectual darling writers. The music is entirely created by computers and sampling, but is not especially sterile or precise thanks to the vocals and samples used. Best bet is the extended cut "The Hacker", a melding of theme to technology with seven-plus minutes of delightful but dark digital antics. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

CLOCK DVA, "Sound Mirror" (Wax Trax Records, 1659 North Damen Ave, Chicago, IL 60647): Insidious industrial techno-dance describes the dark electronics that Clock DVA delivers on this three song EP. The two versions of "Sound Mirror" are acid paced pieces of pulsing bass and heavy beats, with high pitched synth and haunting sounds eerily injected, sinister voices appearing on top of the throbbing mass. "The Sonology of Sex" is faster paced, with a breathing base and voices layered more subliminally, punctuated by jumbled voices and subdued yelping. This band has the technology, and wields it well. (EP/PMZ)

★★★★★

NICOLAS COLLINS, "Real Landscape" ($6.00 US, $7.00 elsewhere from A.M. King, Banned Production, PO Box 323, Fremont, CA 94537) Nicolas Collins works as an audio ecologist, recycling the sounds found on AM, FM and shortwave radio airwaves as they pass through his network of delays, samplers, and homemade electronics. The results are a landscape of odd rhythms and juxtapositions where one sound concept tags onto another in a continuous composition of control and chance element that varies with the profile of the radio waves in a given area. The two 26 minute selections here are constructed from 6 European and 1 US performances of Collins' "Devil Music." Presented with a booklet from Collins explaining his concepts, influences and the development of this tape, wrapped in a map with a cassette that must literally be cut open to be played, this is an excellent offering from an important sonic conceptualist. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

CONDEMEK/JOE COLON, "Aural Neurosis" b/w "Schismajam" ($4 from ERL Records, 418 Madison Ave., Albany, NY 12210): A split 7" record featuring a pair of local noise groups. Condemek produces something that isn't too close to music as we know it, but still has an undeniable structure. Joe Colon is more traditional—at least you can recognize the guitar lines—but still pretty hermetic and self-contained. Not easy listening, but fine harsh material. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

NORMAN CONQUEST, self-titled (Hall 93 Grattan #3R, Brooklyn, NY 11237): Punk lounge-lizard covers of pap-filled 70's AM radio hits like "Hooked on a Feeling". (Norman threatens but does not carry off a rendition of "Don't Go Breaking My Heart"). This live tape (recorded at Pyramid) is vocals plus sleazy organ, a novelty but one which might just have some staying power. At least there's a lot to mine in the field. (T/MG)

★★★★★

CORNFLAKE MANDALA, "A Boy and His Dog" (Eggplant Flux Tapes, 36361 E. Enerprise Rd, Creswell, OR 97426): Travis Doane shows flashes of creativity, but what he seems to need is 2 or 3 other bandmembers to bounce ideas off of. He includes an interesting, recognizable cover of Sonic Youth's "Expressway to Yr Skull". Travis bored me with bad sitcom voice tracks on side B. (T/KJ)

★★★★★

THE COSMIC DROPOUTS, "Groovy Things" (Skyclad Records, PO Box 666, Middlesex, NJ 08846): This Norwegian band goes in for paisley and dark sunglasses, as well as a 60's retro-sound that fuzzes and screams its way into the land of psychedelia. Most of the material here is covers, from "Pushing Too Hard" to "How to Stuff a Wild Bikini". The sound is good, and the recreation is bang on. Nothing new, but there's room for a few non-cutting-edge bands in the world. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

RANDY COVEN, "Funk Me Tender" (Guitar Recordings, 10 Midland Ave., PO Box 1490, Port Chester, NY 10573): Really great electric bass that opens with a sonic assault on the Star-Spangled Banner and goes on from there. The rest (with the exception of "Yesterday" are originals, designed to show off Coven's awesome range and technique, and they do it well. I kept being drawn back to the volume knob, and by the time this came out of the player I think I'd put the local Civil Defense folks on alert. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

HARRY CREWS, "Naked In Garden Hills" (Widowspeak Productions, PO Box 1085, Canal St. Station, NY, NY 10013-1085) Over the clangorous droning and driving sound of music for the destruction of the west comes the live recording from the Harry Crews concert of Kim Gordon, Sadie Mae and Lydia Lunch. This trio energetically dismantle sound as Lydia and Kim sing and shout interpretations of this Southern writer's imaginative work of sensual desire and disaster. Between songs, Lydia (primarily) speaks down to the audience in the imperious and crude manner that she's known for; no doubt her haughtiness will disturb some, but the consistency and strength of this material make it worth listening beyond. And for Sonic Youth fans and their like, the music here is truly great. (LP/PMZ)

★★★★★

CRUELLA, "Vengeance Is Mine" ($5.99 from Cruellas Revenge Corp, 3525 SE 29th Ave, Portland, OR 97202) Technically proficient heavy metal band from Portland, Cruella plays the kind of metal you've hear before: grinding chords, squealing guitar, screaming vocals and techno- masturbatory solos. Drawing on themes from fantasy and christo-demonism, songs like "Bats Breath" and "Devils Gone" drag the cliches out and beat on them with vigor. Only the final two songs slow the pace to a more introspective and melodic style that I found more appealing, though not enough so to balance what had passed before it. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

CRYPTIC SLAUGHTER, "Speak Your Peace" (Metal Blade Records, 18653 Ventura Blvd. #311, Tarzana, CA 91356): Very political, very socially conscious thrash metal with rather hardcore lyrics. Songs like "Deathstyles of the Poor & Lowly" are as hard-hitting in their opposition as anything that comes out of the NY anarchist hardcore scene; only the music has been changed to destruct the eardrums. Very, very heavy and full of power. (T/MG)

★★★★★

ALICE D., ? (Goanna Rock Records, 707 N. Ivy St., Arlington, VA 22201): There is a title here, but it's in some Eastern script that I can't reproduce in this space. The music is swirly guitar stuff, with lots of vocal harmonies, and bits of violin, balalaika and who knows what else engineered in. Almost ethereal, but with a real presence rather than New Age overproduction. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

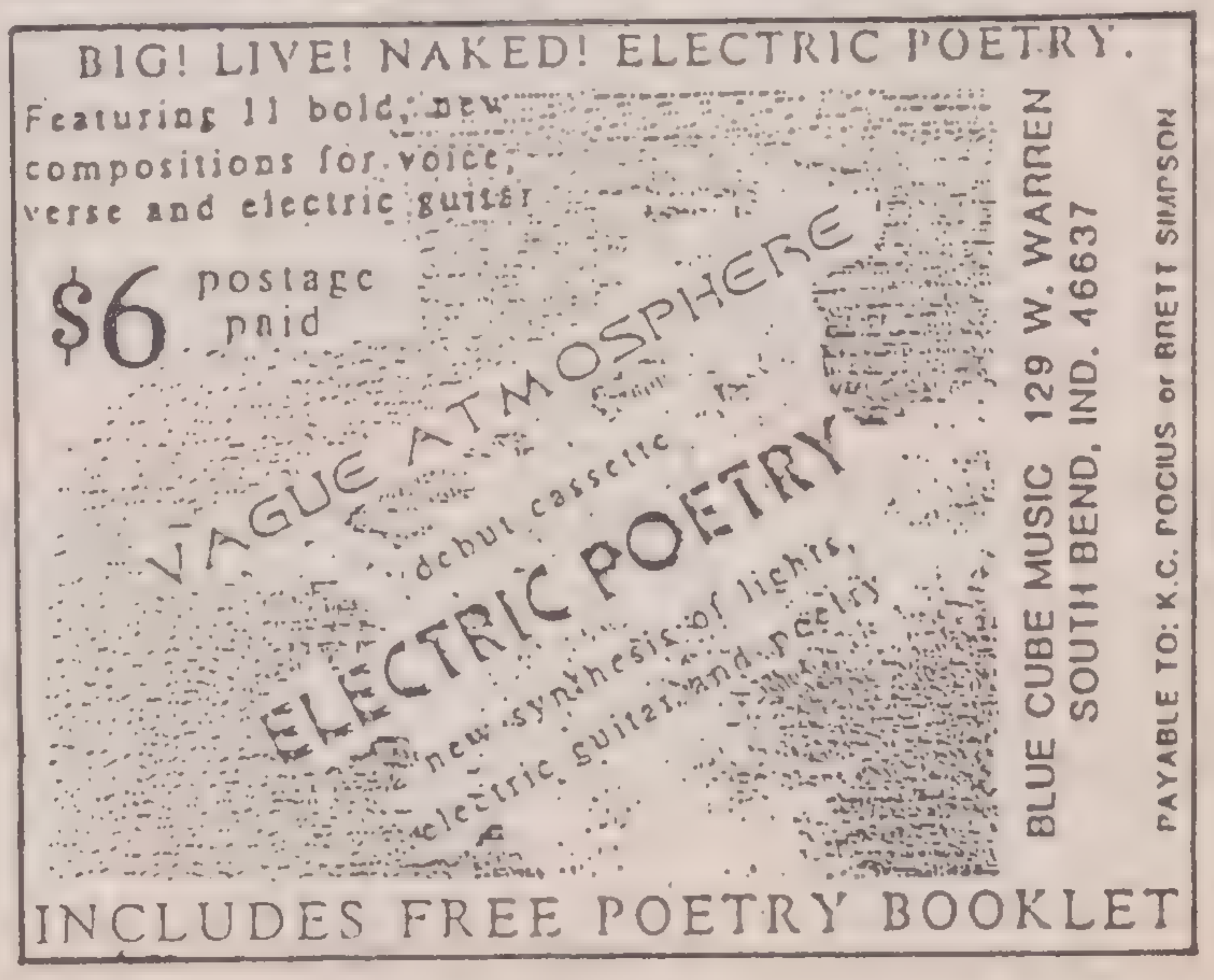
DABECY, "Destroying the Bestial and Contaminated Enemy" (937 W. Cardinal Dr., Sunnyvale, CA 94087): Harsh experimental tape looping and pounding noises. Eccentric industrial music that repeats itself over and over again, then abruptly switches to a new tack. The yelling of tortured machinery and the sound of a thousand hearts bursting under the stress. (T/MG)

★★★★★

DANZIG, "Lucifuge" (Def American, 9157 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90069): This CD carries a lyrics warning label, and the lyric sheet itself, cut into the shape of an inverted cross, is liable to make some folks edgy too. But Danzig are much more than a simple Satanic band. Though there is some gothic material here, there's also classic blues, as well as straight rock and roll. Most of the music explores apocalyptic and alienated themes, but in a relatively sophisticated way. A thought-provoking, as well as deliciously metallic, band. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

DARK ANGEL, "Live Scars" (Combat, 187-07 Henderson Ave., Hollis, NY 11423): This EP-length tape of live thrash metal was recorded during the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band's "Leave Scars" world tour. Fast, furious and relentless—presumably good qualities for a thrash metal band. Check out their cover of Fear's "I Don't Care About You." If you like your metal played faster than the speed of sound, you'll like this.(T/DW)

★★★★★

DEICIDE, self-titled (RC Records, 225 Lafayette St. #709, New York, NY 10012): This is some sort of ultimate death metal, from the red and black cover to the hellish lyrics to the mix, which reduces the singers growls to a sound not unlike those of an industrial vacuum cleaner. I doubt that self-consciously "evil" music can evolve much further (not that I see any particular reason for it to try). (T/MG)

★★★★★

DEL AMITRI, "Waking Hours" (A & M Records, PO Box 118, Hollywood, CA 90028): "Waking Hours" is the second album from Del Amitri and their first in over four years. It is quite different from the debut and only two of the four original members remain. Lead singer/songwriter Justin Currie admits the two different bands can hardly be connected. A much slicker production offers a much cleaner sound. While the guitar pop is still present, but the freshness of the youth is gone, and snippets of country and other American influences creep in. Good or bad, old fans will have to keep an open mind, but I'm sure most will be disappointed. (LP/LJC)

★★★★★

GORDON DERRY, "Transcendence" ($8 from 2105 Honeywell Ave., Ottawa, ONT, K2A 0P7, CANADA): Derry's majestic electronic soundtracks seem to program the brain; I can hear his music echoing by my ears long after the tape has actually stopped playing. The pieces here build gradually, exploring sonic domains that hint of far planets and deep oceans, changing with lovely precision. Well worth a listen. (T/MG)

★★★★★

DIDI, "Demo Tape" ($8 ppd. from z.H Percht, Innstrasse 45, 6020 Innsbruck, AUSTRIA): Bouncy synth-pop that interweaves several melodic lines at once, lending a lush, full ambience to it. The songs are dedicated to "my Lord Jesus Christ", and an enveloping God appears in several, preaching love and hope and beauty. Certainly a different lyrical take for this sort of music, but it's well-done (among the best home taping around) and it works. (T/MG)

★★★★★

DIDI, self-titled ($8 ppd. from z.H Percht, Innstrasse 45, 6020 Innsbruck, AUSTRIA)Ambient music that, no matter now upbeat the rhythm, retains a melancholy air. It's not unlike some of the slower paced pieces found in Philip Glass's "Koyaanisquatsi"; the music is evocative of dozens of images from nature's grandeur to industrialism's horrorshow. (T/CS)

★★★★★

DIFFERENT WORLD, self-titled (Vanguard Records, 1299 Ocean Ave., Santa Monica, CA 90401): Vanguard, the company that brought us Country Joe and The Fish and Joan Baez, is back with their first new talent in years, and it's a welcome return. Different World play folk-rock anchored by mountain dulcimer and thumb piano, with plenty of guitar and accordion and who knows what else. They do silly love songs ("I'm In Love With Your Sister") and great ecological ones ("Ride the Wild Earth") and generally seem to be having a hell of a good time. Folky, acoustic, unique, and fun. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

THE DIRTY DOZEN BRASS BAND, "The New Orleans Album" (Columbia Records, 51 W. 52nd St., New York, NY 10019): Bouncy perky definitely New Orleans brass band music. There's not a dozen of them (only eight) but otherwise the title work here captures the spirit adequately, from the swing rhythms to the melodic (yes, I said melodic) tuba playing. Cheerful, friendly, not too taxing, just a lot of fun. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

DISISM, "Head Cold Fog" (Harsh Reality Music, PO Box 241661, Memphis TN 38124-1661): Studio manipulation from Charles Goff III and Kilir Kaswan, as the 5 selections of this tape cleanly yet densely layer sound. The pieces are built of beds of noise, while acoustic and electronic instruments, particularly brass, guitar, and strings, play on top. Appearing in the midst of this mass are modified and manipulated sources from records (starting with Elvis), movies, tv, etc., voices singing, moaning or yelling, and other oddness. Presented with a sense of restraint, the pieces often fall prey to the background sound syndrome, though something strange eventually draws the listener back. Good techniques and fine playing, if off center, are found throughout this interesting sonic presentation. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

ALICE DONUT, "Boyfriend" b/w "Demonologist" (Alternative Tentacles, PO Box 11458, San Francisco, CA 94101) Snotty voiced rock from this bizzare band playing a dark and dirty rock and roll. Starting with a cover of "My Boyfriend's Back," AD changes the lyrics to suit their needs: "My boyfriends back and you're shitting in your pants." Not without amusement, the overall feeling is that of a strained joke, like the 8 year old that keeps yelling "look at me" while he picks his nose with exaggeration. The B side remix of "Demonologist" sounds more like the band at their own music, with a layered guitar sound riding hard over the whiny vocals, now mixed down to work with the song. Swap the A and B sides and this is a reasonable single from a very odd band. (45/PMZ)

★★★★★

DOUGZIG, self-titled ($5 from Matt Towler, 277 Lake Ave., Worcester, MA 01604-1101): Snorting pounding feedback ranting madness from Doug Chapel (who puts out SPUN and various comics). Repetitive vocals, cheesy toy-sounding instruments, and tape loops are the raw materials here, combined into experiments which sometimes work and frequently fall flat. Everything from puerile Satanism to chaotic love songs. (T/MG)

★★★★★

DREAM POLICE, "Cold Winds" ($10.00 from No Aarhus, Postbox 3, DK-8381, Mundelstrup) Heavy chords and prominent bass characterize this West German record from Johnny Concrete and his assembled crew, which best fits in the heavy metal field, although without the metal solo flash. In fact, their is very little soloing overall, and that found tends to be mixed down in favor of the solid bass and drum work of these four songs, with vocals less sung than spoken in a hard, somewhat shouting voice. The final piece, "Dance of Fools," best highlights the record, built around a more relaxed guitar and keyboard progression, with a heavy bass line that breaks into a complex drum and bass pattern. Throughout, the band plays well, but a real spark seems to be missing to carry these tunes over the edge. (EP/PMZ)

★★★★★

the drowningbreathing, "Legato" ($4 from Michael Pittard, 632 State Capitol Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70802-5260): Unsettling synthetic music with wild swoops of volume and phrasing. Michael—I assume this is a solo project—tends towards repetitive looping, slow-moving minor chords, and electronic effects. It almost sets the teeth on edge to listen, as it's close enough to more normal musics to be a disturbing disruption. (T/MG)

★★★★★

DRUMMING ON GLASS, "Tear It Down" b/w "Trip" (Aurora Records, PO Box 2596, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130): Beginning with a sitar intro, this band slides in with cool bass work, excellent syncopated guitar chords and inventive drumming, while the vocalist sings "The past is the past; the past is bullshit; tear down," inviting us to give up the past in favor of building a new one. Excellent breaks with sitar and rich guitar progressions punctuate this sophisticated and intelligent tune. "Trip" is slower and more psychedelic, with bongos used in a tabla-like approach under textured sitar work, using a free breakdown with guitar feedback as a howling wind. The effect is a darker, more urgent song, an excellent end to a dynamic single. (45/PMZ)

★★★★★

THE DUSTDEVILS and UNREST, "Live in DC..." ($3.00 from Easy Tapes 5012 Cedar Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19143) This tape is split between Unrest and The Dust Devils, both recorded live at the Teen Beat Showcase in Washington DC. Unrest is a hardcore band that thrash and shout through their set in a manner that at times feels awkward, though they tighten up as the set gets going; recording quality really doesn't help here. The Dust Devils are a hard edged rock band that work together as a strong unit. Along with their own driving, grungey tunes, a Fall cover is appreciated. A note on the insert describes the most obvious aspect of this tape: 'Recorded by Simon on his crappy ass walkman.' The sound quality—muddied vocals, feedback messes and volume drops—makes this a cassette that only a real fan of these bands is going to spend the time pursuing. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

EELGUT, "Glaucoma/Osteoporosis" ($3 from Helium Salad Lotion, PO Box 16782, Denver, CO 80216): Electronic analog madness, creaking and breaking sounds, cracking noises, lots of jittery static. Like sticking your finger in a light socket and turning the dimmer switch on and off. Not really music, more of an experiment in noise. (T/MG)

★★★★★

ED HALL, "Love Poke Here" (Boner Records, PO Box 2081, Berkeley, Ca 94702): Not always polished, always whacked, I'll compliment this band by saying that it took a lot of listens to get a handle on them. A trio, they build powerfully weird grooves with strong bass presence and exciting drumming, while the guitar works over the top, adding appropriately frantic and humorously strange parts amidst great melodic lines. Meanwhile the silly, bizarre lyrics sing at the edge of control over an extremely odd set of subjects. At times I've thought this band had the sound of early Camper Van on speed, but the Chili Peppers show up, some experimental stuff appears, and music that can only be Ed Hall themselves is here, playing exulting, energetic, beyond-college rock; check it out. (LP/PMZ)

★★★★★

BERNIE EINSTEIN, "The Bernie Einstein Story" ($6 from C&O Records, P.O. Box 1023, Baltimore, MD 21203): You may not like the style (folk/country twang) but this guy is sincere, so much so that he apologizes for the tape hiss on a less than perfect recording. Still, that's just what gives it the ambience he needs to pull a tune like "Play That Thing" off. No apologies necessary, a good compilation of past efforts. (T/KJ)

★★★★★

ENSEMBLE VIDE, "Une Action Locale Dans un Resena Mondial" ($6 ppd from Ensemble Vide, BP 12, F-33031 BDX CEDEX, FRANCE): A recording that is both hypnotic, traumatic and musical all at the same time. Layered, pulsating rhythm tracks combine in a deadly fashion with a searing noise track on side A. Other pieces utilize more traditional detuned guitar techniques overlayed on a bed of grumbling bass. Side B kicks off with a truly incredible, pounding assault that somehow maintains a danceable edge. The best thing about this cassette is that unlike most industrial/experimental cassette releases, it ends before you want it to. Highly recommended. (T/KJ)

★★★★★

ERROR, "Show Off Your Mutants" (PO Box 271327, Corpus Christi, TX 78427): An intriguing mix of techno-dance music and sonic cut-ups. Error start off with a heavy layer of synthesized rhythm, but then they drop tape loops and a variety of found sounds atop that, together with guitars and live vocals. The result is a music for the information age, a maddening survey of static and symphony. Rough around the edges, but different enough to be enjoyable. (T/MG)

★★★★★

ESMIRELDA, "Purple Nurple" (Cat Box Productions, 3238 Hewitt Ave. #33, Silver Spring, MD 20906): Hilarious dirty-mouthed political raunch folk acoustic guitar stuff. Esmirelda has a no-nonsense voice, and the lyrics to songs like "Censor Me" and "I Ain't Gonna Kiss Your Ass" make good use of it. Uproariously funny. Buy it now before it gets a warning sticker. (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE EVISCERATERS, "Eviscerate Yourself" (Jeff Jarvie, 750-119 North, Indiana, PA 15701): Both this and the Mystery Tramps tape are products of the prolific Jeff Jarvie, recorded in 1987 and 1988, respectively. This is the "better" of the two tapes, with discernible instrumentation and some truly clever melodic ideas. Unfortunately, to get to this nuggets, one first has to wade through a horrible "mix," painful vocals, and lyrics like "stoic monoliths face towards the sun/as you jam your Rudy into her zitty bun." (T/EB)

★★★★★

THE EVOLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE, "Penis De Milo" ($4.00 from The Evolution Control Committe, PO Box 10391, Columbus, OH, 43201) Experimental collage work with a warped sense of humour, this tape creates a fun multimedia nightmare that takes place at all the wrong speeds, chopping and disecting record, radio/tv recordings, sound effects, or overlaying random cd selections to create a bed of active, disturbed noise. Above this maelstrom are added dialogs and monologs: a cosmetic sales pep talk; a bland preacher wonderfully cut up into nonsense; a childrens interactive record with Rosemary, 'your talking record friend' where rather obscene, stupidly funny responses are provided (what would one expect from a tape called "Penis De Milo"); and The Mighty Hamburger. Beautifully packaged on a chrome tape with nice labels and explanatory liner notes on a bright yellow insert. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

THE EXISTENCE, "Love It" ($4 from Underground Sound, PO Box 196, Palmyra, MI 49286): The Existence is Joey MF, recording solo in his basement on a Fostex set-up. He produces pleasant little pop songs with a quiet, gentle tone to them. They're mainly love songs, a few with slight religious overtones. Real sincere, reasonably polished, and with some potential for the future. (T/MG)

★★★★★

EZMERELDA, "Damned If You Do, Damned If You Don't" (Rock City Productions, 1415 Main St. #720, Worcester, MA 01603): Fast-paced and well-polished rock from a quartet who all wear leather gloves for some silly reason. Never mind that, the guitar work is the thing to listen to here, and Rick Dunlop never lets up for a moment. The rhythm section fills in and Frank Evanski provides lyrics from the spiritual to the purely social. (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE FABULOUS ORGAN DONORS, "Nerd Punk" b/w "1973," & "Everybody Pogo" ($3 cash from 41C Storrs Hts. Rd, Storrs, CT 06268) "Nerd Punk" is a silly tune about a misfit punker (the one they call shithead) who contemplates drinking formaldehyde, among other suicide options. Minimal chords with sneering vocals in a Sex Pistols' mold drive this hard punking tune in what is my favorite stupid musical pleasure of the week. "1973" is a wish to return to that wonderful leisure suit age; "Everybody Pogo" is a call to dance with this somewhat angular stop/starting heavy tune. A single not to be taken seriously, but I've been enjoying cranking these songs to the bother and amusement of my friends. (45/PMZ)

★★★★★

FAITH HEALERS,"The Age of Light and Life" (Incurable Records, 538 Frisco, Fayetteville, AR 72701): A four song EP from four men who provide a mix of gothic rock (David Bowie type material) and latter day TSOL. The Faith Healers have a sound that would be great for a scary late night punk flick. "The Moon Comes Closer" would fit right in with *The Lost Boys* soundtrack. Ghostly recordings that furnish a feeling of anxiety of what's gonna happen next when Wade Ogie manages to his next note. The guitar work by Dave Garrett does give a live feel to the four songs making this effort good on the production mark. (T/KMB)

★★★★★

FESTER, "Liquid Faith" ($3 from Dave Phlegmfester, PO Box 536, Rustburg, VA 24588): The four member Fester plays dark, sometimes humored punk and hardcore tunes with a variety of approaches. Opening with the Sex Pistols influenced "Jerrychrist," members Lesterfester, Fishfester,

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Phlegmfester and Talleyfester work as a tight unit through songs about stupid violent behavior, FUF (Fuck You Falwell), Tiananmen Square, the KKK, and stupid individual behavior. While the hardcore "Beverly Hillbillies" theme didn't quite do it for me, nor the reggae closer, the overall variety and focuses proved interesting, and show a band functioning well together. The subdued pope with the sword in his eye insert cover is quite dark and lovely, and fits with Fester's interest in putting their points up front. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

FINI TRIBE, "Monster in the House" (One Little Indian, 250 York Road, London, SWII 35J): A craftily blended mix of futuristic Euro-dance (I kept envisioning those bizarre sequences from Joel Grey and Liza Minelli in Cabaret) and lush almost mystical atmosphere. They take that basic formula and then dole it out with a heaping helping of good ole driving acid-house influences to jazz things up a bit. (LP/CS)

★★★★★

DAVID FINLEY, "Tired Feet, Hungry Soul (donation to David Finley, c/o Liberation Music, 2005 Palo Verde Ave. #230, Long Beach, CA 90815): Spiritual live acoustic songs, concerned with love, faith and existence. His cover of Larry Norman's "A Song Won't Stop the World" is heartfelt and authentic, as is the sentiment of the songs on the rest of the tape. The live studio one-track recording gives this the intimacy of a folksinger in a coffeehouse. This is a tasty folk tape, but the religious overtones won't appeal to everyone. (T/DW)

★★★★★

FLAGRANTS D'ELI, 7" EP ($3 Europe, $4 elsewhere from Resistance Productions, Postfach 426, 8026 Zuerich, Switzerland): Crossing folk-punk with a cold wave sound, this French band turns in four songs with a critical, intent-examining bent that deals with militarism, power and injustice. Using an extended line up that includes synth and trombone, the band is led vocally by ELI, singing with an urgency that doesn't overbear the feminine tone of her voice. The music varies from relaxed new wave treated punk to hardcore energy, all with a sense of restraint as the band exposes the energy behind these songs' texts. Part of the International Hardcore Movement, lyrics are translated into English and German. An intelligent and concerned ep from an idea based band. (7"/PMZ)

★★★★★

FOETUS INC., "Sink" (Wax Trax Records, 1659 N. Damen Ave, Chicago, IL 60647): Foetus, aka Jim Thirwell, is the nastiest and perhaps most advanced one man band currently working. Under the ever shifting moniker of 'Foetus,' Thirwell churns out a cross section of the counter culture- ugly scourge songs, strong gutsy melodies, cruel beat enthusiam, inventive and subtle percussion interactions, radical soundscapes of adultered noise- freely mixing violence and sexuality into complex constructions of a uniquely perverse vision. The results are incredibly clean and dynamic, sometimes shockingly so, as quick turns of sound come suddenly blasting in. Compiled from the last five Foetus EP's, "Sink" also contains unreleased material, old and new, making this a good introduction to those who have examined Foetus in the store but were hesitant to buy. But if you're looking for gentle, considerate music, forget it. (2LP/PMZ)

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cuts. production & treatments: buess & fringeli mix:buess

★★★★★

FOETUS INC., "Butterfly Potion" (Wax Trax Records, 1659 N. Damen Ave, Chicago, IL 60647): This is the harshest, most brutal Foetus to date, Thirwell turning up the distortion, dropping the percussion behind a bit, and going in for a nasty blast of effected of sound. Three tunes are ripped apart here, from the warped, distorted vocals and eastern tinges of the eerie "Butterfly Potion," to the climax of "Your Salvation," with muted horns climaxing an overloaded buildup. "Free James Brown (so he can run me down)" is the nastiest of the lot, a harsh wall of power as Thirwell's dark, ugly lyrics sing nasty sickness in an evil tone. Thirwell seems to have perfected the dirty ugliness that music named Foetus deserves, and this Foetus kicks. (EP/PMZ)

★★★★★

FORBIDDEN, "Twisted Into Form" (Combat Records, 187-07 Henderson Ave., Hollis, NY 11423): Melodic metal power thrash that has some surprisingly clean and crisp interludes. The band has a strong sense of both lyric and social justice, and sings of the evils of destruction, whether it be of self or environment. Maybe some of this message will get through to folks who just turn it up and shake the walls—a task which the tight guitar work and solid vocals make it well-suited for. I find most metal pretty blah; this is a definite exception. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

LITA FORD, "Stiletto" (RCA Records, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036): OK, I admit it, I'm a sucker for great guitar work, and ex-Runaway Lita has that in spades. Fortunately she also has a lusty singing voice—showcased on the raunchy "Hungry" and the cover of "Only Women Bleed"—that does justice to her original material. This is a polished album, not for the easily offended, that rewards loud and frequent listening. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

FORMULA 43, "I Keep Thinking" (Watchdog Records, PO Box 262, Exton, PA 19341): Decent DC-style hardcore music with some diversity in delivery and execution. Strong traces of metal give the music a firm thrust, while hard rock tops it off to give it gumption. The reggae-like rhythms are an especially nice tough that hint at as-yet untapped potential for future work. (EP/CS)

★★★★★

HAROLD FORTUIN, sampler ($6 from 129 Burcham #4, East Lansing, MI 48823): A selection of experimental music written with the aid of computers—and indeed, some pieces are so complex or so irregular as to admit of only computer performance. Most of the end-results, though, are much the same as one finds from other composers working in the modern heritage of the classical tradition, exploring the range of sounds and feelings which standard instruments may produce. Some of these pieces fall flat, but the best provide enveloping listening experiences. (T/MG)

★★★★★

FOSTER & LLOYD, "Version of the Truth" (RCA, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036): Nashville-based music that's somewhere on the borders of country and rockabilly, with a definite twangy sound that mixes with plenty of vigor and more drive than one ordinarily finds in C&W. It's a fun album, if not an especially deep one, and might just introduce a few fans to musics they might otherwise never hear. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

FOURFRONT, "Revent" b/w "Nine to Four" (Vegas Deuces Records, PO Box 8071, Austin, TX 78713-8071): Tightly-produced (except that the lead guitar is allowed to "squeak" all too much) post-punk on clear yellow vinyl. Apart fro the latter fact, though, there's not a lot to stand out in this record. The band knows their instruments, but this record at least does not show too much evidence of originality with them. (45/MG)

★★★★★

FRENCH INDOCHINA, "Rushdie Must Die" ($5 from Jim O'Loughlin, 67 Oakland St. #1, Brighton, MA 02135): The J-card in this tape has a long list of instruments "abused" in the production of the music; they might well add "the listener's ears" to that list. In a morass of pounding, banging, and shouting, with occasional bursts (quickly suppressed) of musical sounds, they deconstruct "Muskrat Love" and present their own "Fuck Peace & Love, Give Us The Blues" among other songs. Aggravated musical assault. (T/MG)

★★★★★

MITCH FRIEDMAN, "Extravaganza Deluxe!" (74 Charles St, Apt C, NYC, NY 10014): A one man show, Friedman plays simple, effective music and sings along with minimalist songs and short sound theaters that are both friendly and whimsically quirky at the same time. The music uses keyboards, simple drum patterns, guitar, samples, loopy piano parts, and assorted sound effects. With lots of silliness, you get original songs and covers like: "You'd Be So Nice to Come Home to" over a militaristic snare with jets, sirens and other war sounds; an abnormal "You Really Got Me;" or a rewritten, oddly acapella "La Bamba." Other pieces include a Dinner for None," a reading of a hypothetically disgusting dinner menu, and the "Birdhouse" aviary. All is far from the realm of normalacy, but never obnxiously so, as a friendly tone is maintained throughout this fun tape of personal weirdness. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

MITCH FRIEDMAN, "Pop Corn" ($5 from 74 Charles St. #C, New York, NY 10014): Crazy mixed up solo music that depends on such unlikely instruments as a sack of potatoes, a shoebox, and a film canister, as well as keyboards, flutes, and xylophones. Friedman produces sort of a warped kiddie music sound, Sesame Street invaded by Martians with serious mental problems. It's a rapidfire tape, with dozens of songs, most lasting about a minute. Things drag a bit after a while, but in small doses, this is novel and enjoyable. (T/MG)

★★★★★

FRIGHTWIG,"Phone Sexy" (Boner Records, PO Box 2081, Berkeley, CA 94702): The name is a 50's slang term describing women who aren't quite put together. The band is a 90's hip group whose music isn't quite put together in any currently cliche'd category...and who are all the better for it. Hell raisin' beehive "do's" clash violently with gum chompin black bobs (if you can get this visualization you're halfway there) Thick crunchy fuzz-laden girl-group swamp boogie that's traveled into your stereo by way of a psychedelically overdosed punk rock melee. (LP/CS)

★★★★★

FRONTLINE ASSEMBLY, "State of Mind" (ROIR, 611 Broadway, Suite 411, NY, NY 10012) Dark and demanding industrial beat music, "State of Mind" is a reissue of this band's second record, originally issued on Dossier. Built on energetic beats with active percussive counterbeats, surrounded by heavy synth work, odd sounds, and effected vocals, the sound flows from dark brooding environments to grandiose exultation, aimed to force the body into demanding dance. Not everything works here, and akward or overworked moments are found, where the vocals seem forced and affected, or the machines are left to their progressions in unfeeling ways, but these moments are consistently replaced by a music whose intensity explains why most of this works as well as it does. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

F.U.C.T., "Dimensional Depth Perception" ($7 from Carlyle Records, PO Box 150708, Nashville, TN 37215): F.U.C.T. (Forever Ungratical Corinaric Technikilation) plays a dark, deeply throated hardcore with overtones between metal and retro-70's rock. Appropriately ugly with an angry, even evil overtone, F.U.C.T. burns through shifting, heavy energy songs, adding in strange vocal effects, insidious whispering, and odd sounds. The lyrics appear introspectively ominous, and though included in the insert, I couldn't bear the eye strain of reading the scratchy micro hand writing long enough to be certain. But the deep angry vocals support this, as F.U.C.T. challenges ths 'ignorance towards negative energy which provokes us to the point of technikilation.' (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

THE FUNC, "No Hanging" (PO Box 989, Belmar, NJ 07719): Funky mellow five-piece straightforward get down dance music. Plenty of bass and a strong percussion & drum section keep the beat going nice and smoothly, while the lyrics add an air of silliness to the whole. How seriously can you take "My Life Sucks (But the Money's Good)", after all? Enjoyable music that does only one thing, does it well, and doesn't pretend to be more than a way cool dance band. (T/MG)

★★★★★

FURNACEFACE, "Let Down Your Cool" (The Skull Duggery Label, 77 Scituate Ave., Scituate, MA 02066): Three fast hopping numbers of beady-eyed punky funky fornication with a goofy lyrical slant toward behavioral posturing. The trio weave a tight instrumentation that sometimes shifts to space scrambling in the spirit of snazzy early 70's Black Funk stuff (note the percussion on "...Cool." (45/JCM)

★★★★★

FUZZHEAD, "Hallucinadub 90" (Bill Weita, PO Box 257, Kent, OH 44240): Rock noodling and covers from Bill and friends. They do extended cover versions of "Thank You For Letting Me Be Myself Again" and "On Broadway" as well as a batch of originals from "1-900" to "That Baby O'Mine". Plenty of fuzz guitar, long solos, and an atmosphere of good old boys playing rock because they like the music rather than as a business move. (T/MG)

★★★★★

GAME FOR VULTURES, "Goin' My Way" b/w "I Need You" & "Surfin' Bellingham Bay" (Estrus Records, PO Box 2125, Bellingham, WA 98227) Distorted rock in a hard pop vein, Game for Vultures break in the A side's "Goin' My Way" with a distortion blast, quickly turning to the banging beat that drives this positive song along, some good dirty guitar work playing between and over the raw vocals. "I Need You" is more standard fare, again with the distortion grinding away. An instrumental, "Surfin' Bellingham Bay" closes the single as a good short workout tending to the darker side of rock. (45/PMZ)

★★★★★

SOLIMAN GAMIL, "Ankh" ($20 *CASH* from Touch, 13 Osward Rd., London SW17 7SS, UK): Touch continues to bring out accessible and classy

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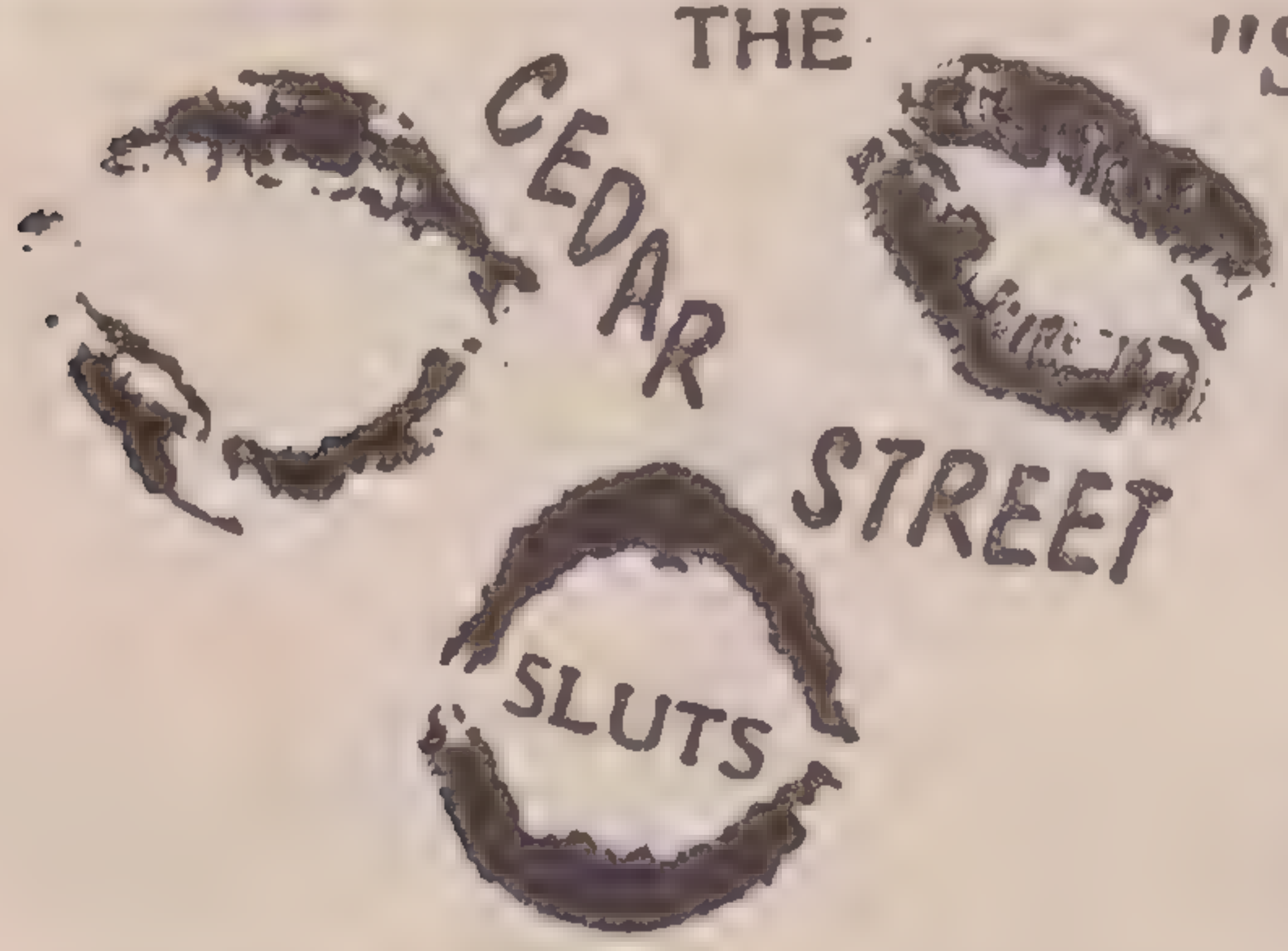

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esoterica. This is a selection of contemporary instrumentals from one of Egypt's leading composers. Gamil works with folk instruments (Nay, kanoun, tabla and others) and themes from Egyptian mythology to produce a set of 15 dances, hymns and solemn pieces. Very well done, and excitingly different. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

GANG GREEN, "Can't Live Without It" (Roadrunner Records, 225 Lafayette St, Suite 709, NY, NY 10012) Idealizing beer drinking and partying, Gang Green shouts their way through adequate though uneventful hardcore that occassionally crosses over to metal. The first two songs on this tape yell 'more beer' as the clearest statement on the tape, except perhaps for 'One Bullet' which shouts that Gang Green does not want to be told what to do, they want to party, but they're willing to stop just long enough to deliver one bullet to achieve their goal. Senselessly stupid party rock, while Roadrunner Records confuses you with a blurb to stop the madness of hard drugs. Right. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

GAP TAPE 3, "Collage 1" (Greg Evanson, 275 Woolwich St, Basement, Guelph, Ontario, N1H3V8. Canada): Pasting together interviews, spoken word performances, television/radio cuts, and any other sound source at hand, Gap Tape 3 is an exposition of meandering sound. From long to miniscule segements, the sources are serially sequenced, with some of them sampled, chopped up, and repeated. Volume levels shift radically and the sequencing is not particularly tight; overall the material appears to flow aimlessly from segment to segment without intent. While some of the sources are recognizable, nothing is identified, which makes this an esoteric listen during the longer sections. Not without some interesting techniques, this feels too loose and pointless for my tastes. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

JASON GIBBS/ROBERT GREGORY, "Go, Song of Mine" (From Robert Gregory, 1525 Euclid Ave., #20, Miami Beach, FL 33139): A homey sounding experimental project connected by a concerted plotting of points of possibilities on the grid of cultural sound dribble. Varied instruments and autoindulged diatribes do not fail and if you check out "Smut" you'll know what I'm saying. Or, a jagged and tawdry sofrito of drum machine, tapes, guitars, keyboards, bassoon, trombones that flitters and flails like a myna bird dying in a bucket of pus. (T/JCM)

★★★★★

GLAS, "Choral Music of the USSR" ($10 *CASH* from Touch, 13 Osward Road, London SW17 7SS, UK): A stirring and spiritual recording that has its roots in songs sung during mass migrations. The choral overlay at times is quite stunning and helps to immerse the listener in the unfamiliar culture of the performers. If you enjoy the ethnic and the unfamiliar, you'll love this. Highly recommended. (T/KJ)

★★★★★

CHARLES RICE GOFF III, "Volatile Volitions" ($6 from 4312 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, CA 94609): Simple sketches of rock and pop songs livened up by a wide variety of instruments and found noises, to fill out Charles' basic voice and guitar sound. It's a bit reminiscent of Daniel Johnston in simplicity and concentration on lyrics, but Goff is definitely not over the edge. After a while I started wishing some of the material here had been filled out and developed a bit further, though. (T/MG)

★★★★★

DAVE GRANEY WITH THE WHITE BUFFALOES, "My Life On the Plains" (Fire Records, 472 Greenwich St. 5th Fl., New York, NY 10013): Australian plains music, light rock with c&w and blues touches. The sound relies on Graney's dripping-sincere voice, backed by pedal steel, lead guitar, and lots of piano touches. Wide-open slow-moving songs for large flat expanses of territory, along with some restyled cover versions like the closing "Streets of Laredo". (LP/MG)

★★★★★

EDDY GRANT, "Barefoot Soldier" (Enigma, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): Eddy Grant has been recording relaxing mellow pop/reggae music for a long time, and judging by this album, he should be at it for a long time to come. His style is well-developed, and with at least two genuine hits on this album ("Wildcat" and "Sweet on the Road") why should he change? Happy, bouncy dance music that doesn't tax the brain too much. (T/MG)

★★★★★

GREENHOUSE EFFECT, "Immorally Moral" ($2 from Clark Hagins, 251 Paseo de Grach, Redondo Beach, CA 90277): Dark strains of quick eastern melody open on guitar, followed in with tight bass and snare work as this trio works into "Virus O Sirus," the opening track of this cassette single. "Coke Snorting Love Boys" follows, a heavier tune, crossing metal roots with a hardcore approach while the bass pounds away with energy, ending with a quick sniff. "Waiting for Your Love to Fail" uses a quicker vocal style over a darker melody with good interactive playing. Though GE writes in the insert "unsigned and built to stay that way," they should work on creating a more finished package to complement their well developed style. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

GREIGE TRAVAIL, "?1961" ($5 from Bangaway Productions, c/o Zak Sitter, 1460 Cornell Rd, Atlanta, GA 30306) Loose electronic experimentalism and improv from this two man group, the music switching between sampled loops with noise and voice to slow paced, unfocused guitar, keyboard or violin work over drifting backdrops with cheap sounding percussion or rumbling noise; a couple of unremarkable, odd songs finish out the tape. The results are more like sitting in on practice sessions than listening to a finished product; clunking tape sounds between cuts and prevailing hiss don't help this overlong release. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

THE GRINNING PLOWMAN, "I Play Jupiter" (Carlyle Records Inc., 1217 16th Ave., S. Nashville, TN 37212): The fact that the Grinning Plowman hail from Nashville seems highly unlikely given their sound, which is much more British than anything remotely assembling American music. Dark, moody, and full of angst, their songs bring to mind shades of Dead Can Dance, Joy Division, Bauhaus, Echo, and even King Crimson. "No More Love" is indeed beautiful, but often the influences are just too distracting. (T/LJC)

★★★★★

GRUDGEFUCK, "Anti 7 inch" (Enoch Music, 302 South 12th Street, #203, Philadelphia, PA 19107): Remember Deauchamp? He of the elevated bicycle wheel and wine rack to art-history fame? To this day members of the public are still divided over whether or not "readymades" are really considered "art" or not...after all, if a bicycle wheel on a rack is "art" than so might your toilet bowl seat (come to think of it, didn't a toilet bowl seat owned by Pollock or one of his contemporaries recently sell for oodles of $$ at an auction..??) At any rate, this little release is guaranteed to set off the same kind of reaction in listeners—it's a 7" of Italian swing music over which has been imposed a crudely mimeographed label for the above mentioned release. It comes in an illustrated sleeve and gives the impression of being an original release, but it's not. Or is it? Is appropriation of a work to rework it considered original? Once again "art" enters the twilight zone known as the beholder's opinion...(45/CS)

★★★★★

GRUELING EXISTENCE, "Audio Nightmare" ($3 from Provocative Punk Productions, c/o Mark Murray, 1675 Vernon St, #39, Roseville, CA 95678) Grueling Existence lives up to its name with this 100 song release of short ugly sample dissections built from dark, odd-rhythmic sources including voice, dull banging, and seemingly tortured animal sounds. Only about 20 minutes of material is presented on this 60 minute cassette, making 100 songs quite a feat; to be accurate, it's hard to distinguish more that a dozen or so truly distinct pieces, despite a voice counting off between remarkably similar selections. In fact, the sameness of this cassette will inevitably become the source of annoyance that makes this dull nightmare gruelling. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

A GUY CALLED GERALD, "Automanikk" (Columbia, 51 W. 52nd St., New York, NY 10019): An English import of house music—i.e., music designed to be danced to, with heavy repetitive beats, the occasional ethereal vocal, and nothing that requires intense thought. It's slick and electronic and full of effects, and while it is better than some of what I've heard in the genre, I'm not thrilled. Maybe you've got to be on the club floor to appreciate this stuff. (T/MG)

★★★★★

GWAR, "Scumdogs of the Universe" (Metal Blade Records, 18653 Ventura Blvd, Suite 311, Tarzana, CA 91356): In its own sick way, this is an amusing piece of brutal metal/thrash from a band that describes themselves as the creatures of war God created after shitting out the universe. If that sounds offensive, it's simply because Gwar is, and they're damn proud of it. Their savagery includes songs about bloody stumps, maggots, war, general disgust, and the stupidly rude "Slaughterama," where a misplaced variety format "kills everyone that's worth killing." Gwar seem challenged by those difficult to offend, and they come close to success with this release. But it's more likely than not that you'll just find this stupidly sick. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

EIRIK HAMMEN, "Living Cheap in the Land of Milk & Honey Vol. 3" ($3 from 223 Bates Ave. #2, St. Paul, MN 55106): Mostly solo basement rock—i.e., Eirik played the instruments himself and put it on 4-track at home. This is sort of snappy pop; a few tracks have an intensity and near-spoken vocal delivery that reminds me favorably of The Nails. You also get some jaw harp experimentation, clay flute, and a rice and beans recipe. Cheerful fun music. (T/MG)

★★★★★

UWE HAMM-FURHOLTER, "From Science to Ritual" (c/o Artware, Taunusstrasse 63bm 6200 Wiesbaden, WEST GERMANY): 90 minutes of live radio remixing from a variety of abrasive and industrial sound sources. Uwe throws material from Psychodrama, Vagina Dentata Organ, Einsturzende Neubaten, Diamanda Galas, Controlled Bleeding and dozens of others into a relatively seamless stew. A long stretch of driving, distracting, attacking noises. (T/MG)

★★★★★

STEVE HANCOFF, "New Orleans Guitar Solos" (Out of Time Music Co., PO Box 4498 Silver Spring, MD 20904): Acoustic guitarist Steve Hancoff performs transcriptions of the densely polyphonic music of 1920's jazz bands and piano players. King Oliver, Jelly Roll Morton, and the ODJB are well represented. Guitarists will be amazed at Hancoff's technique and jazz fans will appreciate the respectful performances as well as the extensive documentation of source recordings and materials. An important recording. (CD/WM)

★★★★★

HARDCORE, "Sex Weapon" ($5 MO/Cashier's Check from Spencer Saito Jr., Bonehead Records, 9511 Ownby Rd. 9-mile Falls, Spokane, WA 99026): I get a lot of surprises reviewing music. This was a pleasant one. Recorded by a group of inmates in a Washington State prison, Hardcore produces flat-out hard rock that can hold its own at high volume. Their views tend to be pretty strong, as heard in songs like "Hanoi Jane" and "Get On The Snake". A rewarding listening experience nonetheless, and proof that music shows up just about everywhere. (T/MG)

★★★★★

HARDHAT COWBOYS/SAFARI DOGS, self-titled (A$4 plus $2.50 surface post or $6 air post from You're Standing On My Hula Hoop Productions, PO Box 273, Leongatha, 3953 Victoria, AUSTRALIA): Sometimes US zines give the impression that all Australian bands are producing pop and psychedelia, but this split cassette should help dispel that notion. Hardhat Cowboys play something psychedelic, true, but it's full of minor key riffs and industrial drumming. Safari Dogs are more explicitly experimental, with tape loops and droning. (T/MG)

★★★★★

ERIC HAUSMANN, "Backbones of Lost Dogs" (Fantaco, 21 Central Ave., Albany, NY 12210): A collection of mainly instrumental pieces (though a few strange vocals sneak in now and then) with an overall very moody feel. Hausmann's primary instrument is the electric guitar, but he also fools around with keyboards and percussion, and invites a few others to join in from time to time. Heavily textured musics that leave a disquieting feeling behind as they roam stealthily through the corridors of mind. (2T/MG)

★★★★★

HEAD IN THE SAND, "I Envisage I" ($3 from Andrew Vannan, West Steasing, Callands, Mountain Cross, Peebleshire, EH46 7DE, UK): Cleverly intricate pop with a swing to it and a very engaging presence. On some tracks there's a bit of horn work, while others depend largely on more standard instruments played with just a hint of jazziness. The band avoids most of the usual cliches, putting together well-polished tight numbers that encourage slow foot motions and gentle nodding, a sense of rightness of place and time. Very nice. (T/MG)

★★★★★

HENWAY, "Big Hair" $5 from Mitch Friedman, 74 Charles St. #C, New York, NY 10014): Mitch Freidman, Ad Cooper, Peter Roppolo and a few friends team up for this adventure in silliness. They play a bizarre demented pop, heavy on keyboards and screwy vocals. "The Pageant Song" is a lovely upbeat little number, "Trick-Knee Trixie" a suburban nightmare. They also do a few covers, including a great shredding of Billy Joel's "We Didn't Start The Fire". Music to bring a smile to your face. (T/MG)

★★★★★

DAVID HESS, self-titled (MSR Productions, 1186 S. Main #131, Salt lake City, UT 84101): Dark offbeat ditties with a strong rock bent and an accessible pop sensibility. Post-punk neo-industrial rock headed for the new decade. (45/CS)

★★★★★

HIGH RISK GROUP, "Flag" (Harriet Records, PO Box 649, Cambridge, MA 02238): Plodding bass and drums run a languid ricksha course, then furtively two guitars and violin rush into your veins and head for your head. Overall a goodly dose of head which is not dissimilar to latter day Live Skull: vocals up from the blister zone roll about cotton-like with riffwork from the skunk (as in green) zone. Three cuts. Crisp. (45/JCM)

★★★★★

HIROKO, "One in a Million" (Enigma Records, P.O. Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231): Quote from biographical insert—"A Tokyo native, Hiroko grew up in the entertainment business... Like most young girls her age, Hiroko admits that she hopes to have a boyfriend sometime soon, but while she's waiting, she loves to sit around with her girlfriends and listen to her Bobby Brown, Madonna, Whitney Houston, Cyndi Lauper and Stacey Q records". Who says biographies don't tell you anything useful about the music? (T/KJ)

★★★★★

HIS NAME IS ALIVE, "Livonia" (4AD US, 611 Broadway #411, New York, NY 10012): Found in a Michigan basement and then remixed by 4AD's Ivo, one wonders just how much of the 4AD sound was there in the first place. Be that as it may, Warren Defever's bizarre tape loop and guitar experiments and the tradeoff hypnotic vocals of Karin and Angela do come together in a sort of ephemeral orchestral madness. Themes and noises echo, the women trade off parts, and a big ball of loose ends gets rolled at the unprepared listener. Interesting, but needs to be baked a bit more. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

HISTATIC CHARGE, self-titled ($3 cash/stamps/trade from Box 334 Kenmore Station, Boston, MA 02215): This Boston networking group presents their debut release, a well packaged ep of four pieces created from instruments and devices as varied as cardboard box, analog synthesizer, answering machine, digital reverb, shortwave radio, and one younger sister. The pieces set recessed voices amongst constructions of electronics and other strange noises, interspersed with odd echoed percussive sounds. Though starting with bleeping, thumping electronic quirkism, the overall sound is subdued and even gentle at times, declining to the relaxed "Sleep Words" that ends the release. An intersting start for these DIY cassette culturists. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

ROY HODGSON, "Four Short Stories" (£2.25 from Audio Theatre, 37 King St, Sandwich, Kent, CT13 9BL, England): Four short stories from the English Roy Hodgson as read in the distinct and cultured voice of Caro Dermott. "Time for Change" describes the move of a couple from the city to the country, where they encounter a turpitudinous and regretted wife swapping, ending with insipid morality including 'the grass always seems greener...' "The Vase" deals with the good fortune of a financially strapped couple, using an antique vase as its vehicle. "Stranger in the Park" and "The Grey Lady" deal respectively with the poltergeist of a suicidal lover, and a premonition of an ill fated cruise. Though an interesting diversion, none of the stories held any fascination for me in their obtuse meanings and shaded points. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

JAMIE HOOVER, "Coupons Questions and Comments" (Triapore Records, PO Box 5102, Lake Wylie, SC 29710): Mellow North Carolina rock with some strong guitar and generally pretty poppy music. If you like Don Dixon or Marti Jones this is in somewhat the same ballpark. It's cleanly produced and has a couple of good radio tunes, though a bit softer than I generally appreciate. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

HOPE FOOLS, "Everyone is One" (Scott Praire, 209 E. Herman St., Yellow Springs, OH 45387): No lyrics, no song titles and little infor but this Ohio act called the Hope Fools jump from Pink Floyd 60-ish ("Corporal Clegg" period) to breezy pop. The majority of the songs are slow deadpan pieces that would have been better if they had a stronger bent. But don't worry because this group has one song that is excellent—very wonderful pop with a fine use of sax. I think it's called "More More" and I really enjoyed it. The song was catchy and the use of sax threw me for a loop. The Hope Fools should concentrate on building an image around that track. (T/KMB)

★★★★★

JOHN HUDAK, "Last Horseman" (PO Box 7784, Philadelphia, PA 19101-7784): Far, far gone into the experimental ether. There are two pieces on this tape, "Mourning" which fills the A side, and "Ground" which takes up the entirety of the B-side. They go from interesting in the first few moments to numbing to aggravating, for each piece is a single synthetic sample, a second or two long, repeated to fill up the entire side. Brain-dissolving repetition. (T/MG)

★★★★★

HUMAN RADIO, self-titled (Columbia Records, 51 W. 52nd St., New York, NY 10019): Polished techno-rock of note for its lyrics and harmonies. There's a twist to the songwriting here that reminds me vaguely of Elvis Costello, with sardonic numbers like "My First Million" and "Me & Elvis" (Presley, that is) standing out. While the music is a bit too slick for me, I may put this back on just to bask in the stories they tell. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

HUMIDIFIER, "Louder Than Yr. Mom" ($3 from John King, Lubricated Records, 1086 Tulsa St., Uniondale, NY 11553): Blue vinyl with cool pop/rock on it. The band plays at a fast but not thrashing pace and seldom seems to pause for breath except between songs. Their arrangements are tight and interesting, and the lyrics full of gripping images—"the doctors only wanted her brain/so they rationalized their morals away/and they say that she was gonna die anyway". Looking good and just starting their career. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

I AM THE HAMSTER, "Beer's Okay" (1/2 Goon, PO Box 5892, Orange, CA 92613): Side one is like some demented mutant offspring love child of GG Allin and Eugene Chadbourne. It's out there, kinda wild and lurching...part rock and part repulsiveness. Side two carries on in the tradition, but with less obnoxiousness and more punkness. The sound is crazy but not as manic as side one. (45/CS)

★★★★★

IF, BWANA, "Wah Yu Wan" (Generations Unlimited, PO Box 540, Marlborough, MA 01752): If, Bwana is mostly Al Margolis, who here brings his brand of sonic exploration from cassette to vinyl. Though he uses synthesizers, he does so in a more classical mode than many, mixing in oscillators and slow waves of sound with classical instruments from cello to French Horn. The result is an album whose music you can hear long after the turntable stops, an avalanche of imagery that is distinctively different. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

ILE MAUZAR II, "Spring Inventions" ($4 *CASH* from Utsjen Recordings, PO Box 134, Waynesville, MO 65583): A tape of solo guitar instrumentals, which arrived without any further hints. The performer is playing in the heavy electric mode for the most part, with some bits that could fit in as solos in the death metal arena and other things a bit less grim. Interesting, but not compelling. (T/MG)

★★★★★

IN THE NURSERY, "L'Esprit" (Wax Trax Records, 1659 N. Damen Ave., Chicago, IL 60647): This one mixes classical music and instrumentation with sampling, modern technology, a snare drum and light female vocals. The result is a winning combination, music with the haunting flow of good classical and at the same time some of the fast-paced spirit of modern experimentalism. Can you dance to it? Well, you probably could, but I can't see why you'd bother; it's mesmerizing to just set and listen to it. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

I.V. LEAGUE, "Songs of the North American Anglo" !MII.V. LEAGUE(M.D. Records, 1422 21st Ave, Seattle, WA 98122): All we're told about this 'band' is that it's narrated by "the storyteller from Hell," a schizoid Mr. Rogers. Built of thick, melodic guitar leads backed by drum programs that could make Albini jealous, IV League creates a suprisingly large sound, over which the storyteller takes us through a strange set of subjects, including the secret lust of "Lydia Lunch Crunch;" or the very odd overdubbed "Trauma Gobble" about turkey hunting and gun safety; or the obsessive storyteller of "Lies;" and even "Reading," which warns not to give your mind too much rest. With a collection of warped pieces like these, it's unlikely your mind will get too much of that. (LP/PMZ)

★★★★★

MARCUS JAMES, Self-titled (Firenze Records, 1827 Haight St. #65, San Francisco, CA 94117): Marcus James was once a student of guitar virtuoso Joe Satriani and he (Satriani) appears on all but one track of this tape. Logically one would expect the music to be heavy on guitar but that is not the case. The songs are offensive. Offensive in the sense that they are slick, watered down, commercial creations that are so pleasant and nice that it's annoying. When I hear this I think of corporate rock bands like Styx and Nightranger, only not as catchy. That's enough to make me run for my life, if necessary. (T/LJC)

★★★★★

JAWBREAKER, "Unfun" ($6 from Blacklist, 181 Shipley St, San Francisco, CA 94107) Quickly shifting, high gear progressive hardcore drives this LA trio, kindred souls to Samiam and their like. The band plays tight melodic progressions and hooks underpinned by rapidly shifting rhythms, over which urgent, demanding vocals hoarsely sing. The lyrics are darkly impressionistic, dealing with desire and corruption, showing a subtle sense of anger and concern without degenerating into pointless hostility. No real solos here, transitions serving the songs, such as described in "Imaginary War:" "spiritually uplifting baptist revival punk segway followed by corrupt rock part." Kind of says it all; pick it up and get hooked. (LP/PMZ)

★★★★★

JELLYFISH KISS, "Plank" (Shimmy-Disc, JAF Box 1187, New York, NY 10116): B.A.L.L. may be gone, but Kramer's newest addition to the Shimmy-Disc stable should satisfy that stoned-in-the-afternoon craving for heavy acid guitar riffs. Owing nothing to Eno but their name, Jellyfish Kiss rip through these numbers too breathlessly for any of them to stand out as especially brilliant. Sporadically shouted lyrics are mixed way under and the fine guitar work pumped up. Purportedly youngsters from Leeds, England (there's no line-up to own up on the jacket), I would have guessed it to be a new studio configuration of Kramer's friends and enemies, which is good enough for me. (LP/KF)

★★★★★

JESUS JONES, "Liquidizer" (SBK Records, 1290 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10104): You don't ease into this release...it simply envelopes you with an explosion of music. Imagine the Beatles at their cynical hardest, crossed with Cheap Trick at their early cleverest, doused with a current sprinkle of Tears For Fears' sunny pop psychedelics. Toss in a solid dose of urban grittiness and you've got quite a release that never lets up, not even for a minute. (T/CS)

★★★★★

JUKON SPEAKERS, "Dead Man's Dance" b/w "Give Me Love" (Garageland Records, Box 343, S-901 07 UMEA, Sweden): This Swedish band plays dirty psychedelic garage rock in a muddied production. "Dead Man's Dance" uses dark guitar working freely above primal beats and bass, while a muted, distant voice speaks in accented English. Oddly lethargic, the piece is generally static, building slightly via guitar and short cymbal crashes before fading away. "Give Me Love" is more energetic, with a wah guitar solo and vocals actually sung, though still distant and now treated with echo. Culled from '87, this single doesn't seem to have the spark to do anything for me. (45/PMZ)

★★★★★

JULLIET, self-titled (Enigma Records, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): Full-bodied fairly middle of the road rock. Kenny McGee's blues-flavored vocals provide the sound of the band, backed by melody and hard instrumentation. No real standouts on this one, but all the tracks are reliably listenable and the production puts a nice polish on it all. (T/MG)

★★★★★

JURYEN, "The Best of Juryen" ($5.50 from Jan R. Bruun, Hypertonia World Enterprises, PO Box 4307, N-5008 Bergen, NORWAY): "Best" is obviously a subjective term. In this case, though, I'm willing to accept it, because I don't want to hear the rest. Juryen is a one-man project of remixed found sounds and chanted vocals, with a strong rhythmic sense (as often found in young children) and manic overtones. I think of this sort of thing as "eggbeater music" both because it's all mixed up and because the sound of an eggbeater would fit in perfectly. (T/MG)

★★★★★

KEELER, "The Present Link" (Great Orm Productions, 496A Hudson St, #D-35, New York, NY 10014): Shimmering, vibrating mysterious electronic music. The mystery is appropriate, as this is a concept album: a dozen pieces, each based on one of nature's enigmas: Nessie, the Yeti, the Mokele-mbembe, and many more. The liner notes give references on each creature and addresses for several cryptozoological organizations. A fine recording, with more of an edge than New Age and a wider range of styles than most electronic rock. Quite enjoyable. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

ERIN KENNEY & ETHAN JAMES, self-titled (Troy Music Services, PO Box 2103, Venice, CA 90294-2103): This music definitely qualifies as beautiful. A mix of pure clear vocals from Erin and all manner of instruments—guitar, piano, hurdy-gurdy, cello, bagpipes, and other goodies—from Ethan and friends. The result is an album with folky ballad touches, strong pop songs, and deeply felt melodies and lyrics. Feelings soar and swoop while the music weaves dense patterns of song. Hot tracks include the dark "Kill What You Don't Understand" and the modernistic "Einstein". (T/MG)

★★★★★

KIDDIE PORN, "Conflict of Mind" ($6 from Airburst Productions, PO Box 993, Chambersburg, PA 17201): 17 gnarly nasty thrash-metal-punk-noise songs. The band has a sense of humor, and although much of this, like their name, is designed to offend, they're also surprisingly lighthearted. Bits of familiar melodies from cartoons and German beer-drinking songs wander into the middle, betwixt songs like "Needle in My Arm" and "Twenty Dollar Whore". The band is tight and the quality good, so if you're into rude music, give this a try. (T/MG)

★★★★★

STEVE KINDLER, "Across A Rainbow Sea" (Mesa/Blue Moon, 209 E. Alameda Ave. #101, Burbank, CA 91502): Contemporary jazz anchored in Steve's wide range of acoustic and MIDI violin playing styles. The music swoops and reaches, moving from R&B to something like flamenco (on "Agua Caliente") and then on to New Age meditation music. An enjoyable album, and accessible to the listener who is not a jazz fanatic. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

BEN TAVERA KING, "Coyote Moon" (Global Pacific Records, PO Box 2001, Sonoma, CA 95476): Tex/Mex new age music from nylon string guitarist King. The small band plays various Mexican and Southwestern styles but there is none of the real fire in this music that one would expect (interested parties should listen to Charles Mingus' "Tijuana Moods"). The use of the synthesizer seems intrusive. Not much that seems very original here. (CD/WM)

★★★★★

KINGS OF THE SUN, "Full Frontal Attack" (RCA Records, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036): It's nice to know that there's somewhere that the five-minute guitar-heavy classic rock song is still being produced—in this case, Australia. Theirs is an honest sound with the rough edges still attached, idea for turning up and enjoying as sheer vibrational energy. Check out "I Get Lonely", a simple sentiment executed simply but with plenty of power. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

KIVA, "The Healing Art" ($9.50 from 5522 Norbeck Rd. #370, Rockville, MD 20853): Pagan music that seems to occasionally overreach in an effort to sound more impressive but is generally quite well done. It's pretty New Age flavored, but influences from folk to jazz to blues crop up (lovely sax part on "Witchin' Hour"). Ariana Lightningstorm's vocals are well-suited to this work, and she and the other musicians are obviously deeply committed to the healing and spiritual use of music. "Diana" (recorded live at Rites of Spring) and "Spring Is Returning are my favorites here. (T/MG)

★★★★★

KLIMCHAK, "Small Tales from the Global Noise Hut" (Perimeter Records, PO Box 28882, Atlanta, GA 30358): The first half of this release is a relaxed flow of rhythmic music, using kalimba, tabla and other warm percussive sounds, crossed with koto, reeds, electronics, and other instrumentation of an introspective nature. Though there are seven pieces on the first side, the feeling through much of it is that of a continuous piece of music, so compatible are these compositions. The second half is generally more energetic, presenting electronic and experimental pieces and more upbeat acoustic work. Clearly recorded, though not without a layer of hiss, this is a good tape of warm grooves to accompany your activities. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

LAB RAT, "Dance Like a Pig" ($4.00 from Mosh Pit Records, PO Box 9545, Colorado Springs, CO 80932): This large exposition of sounds, the 3rd Lab Rat to escape, is divided into the Rat side and the Pig side. The intro static converting to massive thunderous noise warns you that you're in for ear and wall shaking sound. Excerpts from my review notes might help: 'hurricanes of noise with chattering power steering'; 'noisy roller coaster tug ride'; 'motorcycle ride through a distant battle zone'; 'pressing machines out of control with hisses and chickens being shot.' There's a strange muted rhythmic piece, and garbled voices appear, both forward and backwards. Nicely packaged with pig and rat labels, this is just the thing to take to the slaughter house for a dance. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

LAB RAT, "infectation" (Mosh Inc., PO Box 9545, Colorado Springs, CO 80932): Harsh angular music in a preview of Lab Rat's forthcoming album.

Lab Rat combines tape loops and samples with the sounds of crashing structures, bursts of static, the breakdown of civilization. Dance music for the apocalypse. (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE LARRY MONDELLO BAND, "Mayfield Mornings" ($5 from PO Box 451, Collinsville, CT 06022): Where to begin? The Larry Mondello Band's latest project is a collection of wild regressive jazz, electronic noise that frames itself together into a trio that's been around since 1978. The newest member, drummer Larry Ruhl adds a further force to the group's layered sound. You get lots of samplers, percussion and crazy synth beats to propel this cassette release into the world of atmospheric noise. The material on "Mayfield Mornings" is really out there into another time and place. (T/KMB)

★★★★★

JERRY LAVALLEE, " Back In a Sec" (55 Benefit St. #3, Providence, RI 02904): Gentle folkie hippie acoustic music, with a rap intro that has some of the vocal raspiness of a young Clint Eastwood. Jerry's tunes are simple and listenable enough, but the copy I got was badly marred by a 60-cycle hum that made the quiet parts pretty painful to sit through. Nothing flashy here, just a few minutes; relaxation. (T/MG)

★★★★★

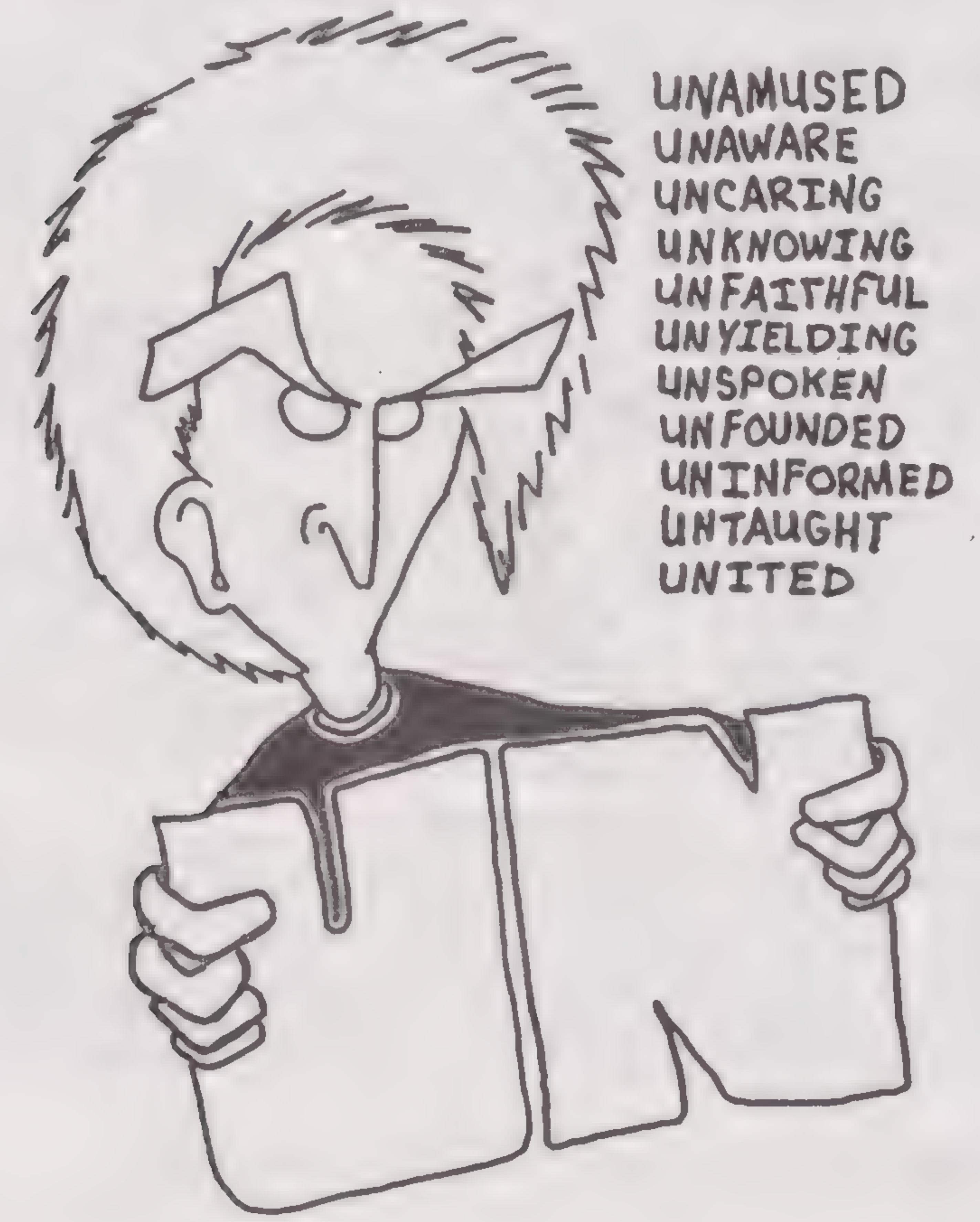
LEAD INTO GOLD, "Chicks & Speed...Futurism" (Wax Trax Records, 1659 N. Damen Ave., Chicago, IL 60647): A three-song 12" single from Paul Barker, in the modern scary dance music mode. The vocals and booming rhythms here give a portentous, melodramatic feel to the music, with the a-side "Faster Than Light" carrying this to nearly-absurd heights of extended play. Cold chrome and steel music for hip robots and fascinated outsiders. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

LESBIAN SPERM, self-titled ($3 from Neal Fadian, PO Box 49601, Austin TX 78765): One can only speculate at the origin of the very odd and original songs on this cassette ep. Using a sparse base of latin percussion, a male voice leads with a warped, almost crooning style, backed and in harmony by female voice, as songs about mimics, racoons and mufflers, butterflies, and shirts are presented. The style is both effectively warm and stupidly plaintive, perhaps like an acoustic Beat Happenings. Strange vocal devices appear- sick 50's harmonies, quick responses about extreme violence, a ranting diatribe on the desire to fuck men that kill- offsetting the straight ahead style these songs pretend to initiate before introducing the nonsense and silliness that makes this an effectively strange release. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

LEGENDARY PINK DOTS, "Crushed Velvet Apocalypse" (Wax Trax Records, 1659 N. Damen Ave, Chicago, IL 60647): Cross the early pyschedelic bands with the most subtle progressive rock and update with a modern ear for sound and atmosphere to arrive at the dark inventiveness of LPD's 10th lp. Vocalist Edward Ka-Spel's clear, thin, expressive voice describes impressionistic images from exaggerated desire to insidious hellish slaughter, while the sophisticated merging of electronics, guitar, reeds, sitar and eastern percussion develop flexibly shifting environments of exacting electronic precision and advanced sound juxtaposition; the warmth and seamless aspects of the music only occassionally remind you of its electronic nature. Though the gap is still great, this record's successful blending of sound and song help explain the link this band has long held with the real industrial experimenters. (LP/PMZ)



★★★★★

LIFE WITHOUT PRINCIPLE, Self-titled (Intrepid Records c/o Twin Vision Management, 50 W. 34th St., New York, NY 10001): A three piece outfit who fits in between college radio and commercial, they are the type of act who can be placed between the lines. Lots of echo vocals by Mike Garrett which is backed by some effective bass lines that are pretty good. Life Without Principle does have a flair about them that could put them towards the right niche if they discovered proper handling. Lots of keyboards are a bit much but it's better than cheap production values. (T/KMB)

★★★★★

LOVE CAMP 7, self-titled (Bowlmor Records, 206 E. 9th St. #1, New York, NY 10003): Jangly blues-ish club rock, along the same lines as a number of other bands that play the Brooklyn club scene. But the lyrics set Love Camp 7 apart as dangerous lunatics, singing about arson and suicide, or about all the wonderful things Father Serra did for the Indians. Somehow it all comes together and makes a crazy sort of skewed sense, light surrounding darkness. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

LOVE CHILD, self-titled (Trash Flow Records, 411 First St. #3, Hoboken, NJ 07030): A cool vinyl debut from a band with a sharp strong slightly quirky rock sound. "He's So Sensitive" shows off a Deborah-Harryish snotty catch in singer Rebecca Odes's voice to great effect, and is the best cut of the six here. "Sofa" is a garage band extravaganza, a romp that cares less about perfect playing then overwhelming exuberance. A band to watch. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

WENDY MAHARRY, Self-titled (A & M Records, 595 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10022): A strong lyrical LP that has some bright moments that makes this release worth your time on account Wendy is able to bring you into her world through her absorbing presence. She works best on the low-key songs such as "I Should Have Known" plus this debut work collects sax, horns, clarinet, and cello into a medium that's enjoyable. Wendy preps herself by pairing herself alongside Laurie Anderson, Joni Mitchell, and Suzanne Vega. Good outing (LP/KMB)

★★★★★

MALOK, "Poetry Sucking" ($4 from Jake Berry, 2251 Helton Dr #N7, Florence, AL 35630) This tape begins with a ranting poem in the vein of Zoogz Rift and Van Vliet, although without the consistency and control of either, read over a noise bed of keyboard, percussion, and muted tv/radio overdubs. The poem's subject meanders from sexual and shock commentary, smoking, political and religious allusions, and other weird perspectives on life, all delivered in an improvisatory manner that flits between bite and stupid blatantness. The bulk of the tape then continues in a presentation of sound and noise as described above, with a kind of murky, unfocused quality in the realm of strange distracted background noise. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

MAN'S ON CONTROL, "Spiderbox" (Perimeter Records, PO Box 28882, Atlanta, GA 30358-0882): Harshly abrasive music that runs from simple guitar tracks to hideous conglomerations of feedback and distortion. It's a three-person project, with the one live track being if anything even more aggressive than the studio cuts. Not very close to the common idea of music at all. (T/MG)

★★★★★

MICHAEL MANTRA, "Bell Born" (Tranquil Technology Music, PO Box 20463, Oakland, CA 94620): Despite the artist's ridiculous new age moniker, this live digital recording of Tibetan bells, Burmese gongs, and sonorous human droning makes for engaging background music. Originally released in 1987 and probably easily found in tape racks at your local self-actualization

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center (right next to the Dale Carnegie videos and Dianetic coloring books), "Bell Born" avoids the cheesy-melodic morass of most new-age type music by allowing the instruments—with their pure, clear tones—to dictate the composition. The result is very successful and the sound quality excellent. (T/KS)

★★★★★

MARKY AND THE UNEXPLAINED STAINS, Self-titled (Carlyle Records Inc., 1217 16th Ave., S. Nashville, TN 37212): No, this is not a Lou Reed album (although you may wonder even after repeated listenings) Singer/songwriter/guitarist Mark Nevers has the Reed vocal mannerisms (singing by talking) down to a science and indeed sounds quite similar to the Godfather of Punk. It's annoying and perhaps Nevers goes too far when he admits "Gonna be just like Lou" ("Junky City") but it can't hide the fact that there are some good cuts and strong songwriting. "Unsalvageable," "Pleasure Island," and "Keep That Shit Away" are the album's brightest moments. (T/LJC)

★★★★★

MARSHMALLOW OVERCOAT, "Beverly Pepper" ($6.98, Skyclad, Inc., 6 Valley Brook Dr., Middlesex, NJ 08846): Garage psychedelic has enjoyed a revival of sorts in the past few years through bands like the Lyres, the Cynics and locals 1313 Mockingbird Lane. Marshmallow Overcoat, a Tucson, AZ foursome, infuses the time-worn genre with sophisticated rhythms, solid compositions, cleaner-sounding guitars and modern production. "Beverly Pepper" provides a welcome 90s update and a much-needed fresh approach. (LP/DW)

★★★★★

MAZ MITRENKE, "Psychonaut" (Harsh Reality Music, PO Box 241661, Memphis, TN 38124-1661): An uncanny, tone-for-tone simulation of seminal synth cheese-meister Jean-Michel Jarre. Only the lack of clever segues and the presence of new age guitar flourishes make this science fiction-flavored release (cuts include "Childhood's End" and, of course, "Psychonaut") distinguishable from the genuine article. More proof that you are what you eat. (T/KS)

★★★★★

MAZZY STAR, "She Hangs Brightly" (Rough Trade, 611 Broadway, New York, NY 10012): Mazzy Star is the latest chapter in the psychedelic Opal saga. Chanteuse Hope Sandoval's ethereal voice is an apt foil for Mazzy Star's "psycho blues." Guitarist Dave Roback provides gorgeous fuzzily lugubrious melodies, lazy guitar slides and a touch of psychedelia. This is a gem. (T/DW)

★★★★★

MEAN BOOPER, "Dirtbag Warehouse" (Rob Winslow, 13611 Gragston Cri. #39, Tampa, FL 33613): The insert here has nasty things to say about tuning, practice and studios, so it's not surprising that their punk sound is more than a little rough around the edges. The energy is here, but it's relatively unchannelled, with lots of loose ends. They have the most fun with "Protect and Serve", an archetypical anti-cop rant from the terrorist point of view. (T/MG)

★★★★★

MEAT BEAT MANIFESTO, "Helter Skelter" b/w "Radio Babylon" (Play It Again Sam Records c/o Wax Trax, 1659 N. Damen Ave., Chicago, IL 60647): A 12" dance music single with an ominous sound to it. As with most dance music, it is repetitive to the max; unlike the bubbly stuff being released these days, though, it's a mix of drones, heavy beats, and vocals that really sound like they ought to mean something seriously deranged. For the black clothing crowd, I guess. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

MC SPIDER, "Much Evil" (Aurora Records, PO Box 2596, JP, MA 02130): Beat heavy overdub music, this EP has three mixes of "Much Evil:" the 'Bullet to the Brain Mix,' the 'Get In It, Get On It Mix' and the 'Family Mix.' Essentially this is a dance groove with pistol shot snare and throbbing bass, while layers of percussion, dark synth tones, and other sounds repeat and are chopped up. Over this, voices are layered, particularly "If you want to give me your life, I'll take it." Less evil than implied, this is good studio work, but my favorite part of all is the spoken introduction (Mr Rogers?): "Here's some loud music which just sound like it's saying 'I'm angry. I'm very, very angry.'" (EP/PMZ)

★★★★★

MICHAEL, "The Warren Tapes" ($4 from Brian Johnson, Cellar Productions, 11 Werner Rd., Greenville, PA 16125): A low fidelity tape recorded during one of the semi-anonymous Michael's stay in a mental institution. It starts out with bad acoustic guitar folk rock, and gets worse, degenerating into an a capella singalong of Village People songs and Christmas tunes. (T/MG)

★★★★★

MIDNIGHT MEN, "Mondo Teeno Experience" (Punk Etc. Records distributed by Play It Again Sam Records, 67 Rue de Cureghem, 1000 Brussels, Belgium): Nothing too deep to grasp here. Straight ahead sixties influenced rock in the mode of the Sonics and other garage type bands. The Belgian based Midnight Men even go so far as to borrow the melody from "Psycho" for their song "Acid Baby." Other songs follow in the same vein with female vocals draped over fuzzy guitars. Nothing like the Cramps, but still a good time for all. (LP/LJC)

★★★★★

MILES DETHMUFFEN, "Nine Volt Grape" (Presto! Records, PO Box 1081, Lowell, MA 01853): The name and title might lead you to think this is psychedelic—but you'd be wrong. I would call it more of melodic chaos, or possibly chaotic melody. Or maybe polished garage music. Whatever it is, the three guitars and vocal harmonies here add up to a catchy sound, and the lyrics keep it all pretty light. Friendly and easy to enjoy. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

MINOY, "Breaking the Same Bottle Twice" ($8 from Minoy Cassette Works, 923 W 232 St., Torrance, CA 90502): A purposeless melange of pop songs and original sounds. Why some people feel an innate need to keep producing this junk is beyond me. This cassette follows the familiar production pattern for this alleged "musical" form—buy a 90 minute cassette, record yourself on side A until the tape runs out, repeat on side B. (T/KJ)

★★★★★

MIRACLE ROOM, "Miracle Room" (Bar None, PO Box 1704, Hoboken, NJ 07030): Artsy creative performance rock that's part mystical and part manaical. As though Tangerine Dream of Klaus Schultze entered into a partnership with Hizzoner of the Underworld. Or perhaps Per Ubu and Sonic Youth attempted their own version of what "new age" music ought to sound like while on hallucenogenics. Veeerrry interesting...and entertaining. (LP/CS)

★★★★★

MODERN ENGLISH, "Pillow Lips" (TVT, 59 West 19th Street, Suite 5B, New York, NY 10011): Though over the years this band has become known as a "one-hit wonder" that's really more through their actions than their music" they keep recording and rerecording their greatest hit, "I Melt With You." So it's no surprise to find it here yet again, done over another time for the anals of music history. Get that song over with and then enjoy the rest of the release, which is really well crafted synth pop, very dance-oriented and made for the "new generation" of MTV viewers who like their stuff charming and light hearted. It's not exactly substantial, true, but hey—if I wanted substantial I'd be out reading Tolstoy. (CD/CS)

★★★★★

MODERN VENDING, "One Bad Peccary" (Ajax Records, PO Box 146882, Chicago, IL 60614): I dunno, a lot of "post-punk"—this record included—sounds more like sloppy rock to me. Now, there's a lot to be said for sloppiness in music, and on a few of these cuts the band lashes together some sort of interesting song. But mostly it's an uncohesive mix of harsh guitars, not-quite-harmonies, and Midwestern twang. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

MONOCHROME BLEU, "LiveTere" $6 from Mike Honeycutt, Mystery Hearsay, PO Box 240131, Memphis, TN 38124-0131): The group is from Austria, but this collection of dark and moody tunes was recorded live in Memphis. The music is fascinating, almost mesmerizing, with drawn out eerie vocals over repetitive murky bass lines and edgy noises. Good music for late nights all alone. (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE MONO MEN, "I Don't Care" b/w "Jezebel" (Estrus Records, PO Box 2125 Bellingham, WA 98227) This band's second single, "I Don't Care" starts with a relaxed bass line torn by a screeching guitar, settling into the garage sound and progressions that best represent this band. Standard rock fare as the raw vocals sing "you'll come crawling back to me," with short, dirty solos pulling in between. "Jezebel" enlarges on the form, beginning with a Peter Gunnish bass riff, and breaking into a bolero-like progression before returning to their more native element: grinding chords in hard garage rock manner. Overall a good single, but not particularly distinguishable from a lot of bands with this sound. (45/PMZ)

★★★★★

MOOD SWINGS, "How to Win Big at the Races" ($4.40 from C&P Records, 109 Minna St., San Francisco, CA 94105): Full-sounding edgy rock, with a guitar and drums attack that sounds real good by not being overly slick. They sing songs of tension and upset, with titles like "Exile (in your arms)" and "Up All Night". (EP/MG)

★★★★★

MORPHOGENESIS, "Prochronisms" ($9.50 from Pogus Productions, 151 First Ave., #201, NYC, NY 10003): Pogus is a label founded by David Prescott and dedicated to providing an outlet for alternative musical styles. Morphogenesis combines six instrumentalists on anything from shortwave radio to prepared violin. While they do forsake synthesizers for more exotic sounds, David Prescott and Gen Ken Montgomery make guest appearances. Intriguing and thoughtful, their music takes on an ethereal quality after repeated listening. (T/KJ)

★★★★★

MUD PIE, "Rustle" (PO Box 428, Devault, PA 19432): A trio with all three members playing guitars and pitching in at times with percussion of clarinet of other noises. They play a quieter and more acoustic than usual guitar pop, rife with vocal harmonies and a wistful, questioning tone. It sounds very Southern, even though the band isn't; a sort of quiet, relaxed, unhurried music. (However, for some reason the whole is flanked by clattering percussion pieces, which seem a sharp transition from the outside world to the rest of the music). (T/MG)

★★★★★

MURILEE ARRAIAC, "Kant's Kustom Knurled Knout Salmon" (PO Box 4171, Irvine, CA 92716): Electronic music and overdubbed, effected voices in music built of synthesized tones, whiney, quirky noises, guitar treatments, and synthetic drum sounds, varying from relaxed electronics to wild improvisations. The voices include conversations, emphatic idiots ranting, strange speaking and police calls, using repeated phrases and juxtaposed voices. The A side is suprisingly calm compared to the B side, but both provide interesting works from an odd angle: titles like "Nut Bustin' Torque in Hayward," or "I will CRYPTO- LOBOTOMIZE Any Brain for $89.95!" may give an indication of the Arraiac sense of humor. Though the recordings are somewhat muted and occassionally overdense, the general sound is that of good synthetic work. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

THE MUSES CHANNEL, "One Light" ($10 from Frank Sarvello, 1233 Jarvis, Chicago, IL 60626): Formed from a healing and meditation group, this is improvised music using drums, xylophone, synthesizer and vocals, mostly in a chanting, moaning style. The music builds and subsides in an unformatted structure, occassionally faultering amongst the almost ritualistic sound that at times reminded me of American Indian dance music. The titles, like "Sperm Comets" and "Birth Pump" are more interesting than the actual pieces, and the inclusion of the children's "If You're Happy" seems out of place among the somewhat dark tone that the band tends towards. That is not to imply that this is simply brooding music; there are exultant moments found amongst this freedom, but the general feeling is that of an overlong excursion into a too limited medium. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

MY DAD IS DEAD, "Shine" (Scat Records, PO Box 141161, Cleveland, OH 44114): I've never been a huge MDID fan, but Scat's double 7" "Shine" does just that. It's not just the red & green clear vinyl in the cool semifold package: forceful tunes like "Nothing Special" or "All My Strength" expose turbulent and violent images amongst the muscular 'band' work. Four of these eight tunes feature Prisonshake's bass and drums (with bassist Burgess producing and engineering):, reworking songs from prior MDID albums. Their influence is a welcome change to the MDID sound, but "All My Strength" is the usual Edwards solo show, and it hits right on. With four new songs of this near-lp length release, this is the MDID to have. (2EP/PMZ)

★★★★★

MYSTERY HEARSAY, "Dwarfed By Brightness" ($7 from Mike Honeycutt, PO Box 240131, Memphis, TN 38124-0131) Functioning as mysterious background sound, the 9 pieces on this 90 minutes chrome cassette work with minimally layered sound, from the grandiose string introduction to the odd manipulations of throbbing, nervous noises, where ideas are slowly, gently demonstrated, modified and reworked, until layered with succeeding sounds. Much of this falls into the ambient soundtrack mold, the action undefined; set against your own activities, be it reading fantastic literature, engaging in dark or strange actions, or simply driving on a grey afternoon, this can provide a good backdrop to shut out the real world. (2T/PMZ)

★★★★★

THE MYSTERY TRAMPS, "Submitted For Your Disapproval" (Jeff Jarvie, 750-119 North, Indiana, PA 15701): Another seriously lo-fi, laid-back, psych-rock endeavor by Mr. Jarvie. It would be easy to rip this tape, but I think it's safe to assume that none of you are going to send this guy any money anyway, so here goes: Jeff obviously had a blast recording this, and he's a fairly decent guitarist who can occasionally string chords together in clever ways. So who am I to say he shouldn't keep it up? (T/EB)

★★★★★

NATURE PROTEIN BISCUIT, "Reclinerfest" (Bangaway Productions c.o Zak Sitter, 1460 Cornell Rd., Atlanta, GA 303066): Sloppy garage rock that takes the farsifa organ sound of Tex-Mex and turns it into the anchor of an eerie grungefest. The overall sound is that of a deranged calliope manned by a group of sadistic elves. Later tracks take on a fuller, almost Deep Purple ambience; in particular, the live track "Stop That Damn Noise" is a wonderful battle of screaming guitars, overblown keyboards, and vocals from hell. (T/MG)

★★★★★

NAUSEA, "Extinction" (Profane Existence Records, PO Box 8722, Minneapolis, MN 55408): New York hardcore with male and female vocals and lyrics of complaint and resistance. It comes with a gatefold sleeve, lyric sheet and poster, all reinforcing a message of opposition to power relations of all sorts—sexism, racism, animal abuse. The sound is jarring, grinding, and fairly powerful, with no hint of slickness. Definitely political music. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

HOWARD NAYLOR, "The Return of the Technoprimitives" (£2.00 from Martin Howard Naylor, Sorcerer Sound Prods, 34 Bassingham Rd, Wembley, Middx, HA0 4RL, ENGLAND) Working as a guitar 'synthist' Howard Naylor composes 'Free Form electronic Improvisation (FFEI),' short electronic sequences, which is how this tape begins: a wash of guitar sound that roams from dull to irritating. On the remainder of the tape, Naylor is joined on vocals and samples/drums by the two man Technoprimitives, who live up to their name by creating simple drum patterns and samplings of Macintosh voices or lifted sax improv. The overall sound is murky and dull, the band simply laying down a base idea while Naylor generates effected guitar sounds to his pleasure in the background. Not particularly satisfying work. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

NEANDERTHAL, "Fighting Music" (Slap a Ham, PO Box 843, San Francisco, CA 94101) The first thing that will strike you with this 6 song single is the truly grotesque label, with an a side mashed face, and a b side split penis. The music itself is slow grinding grunge with screaming, strangled, gargled vocals. The descriptions in the insert explain more about the the songs than what you're likely to pick up even on repeated listening, with the possible exception of "Brain Tourniquet:" "an experience in pain." Lyrics are available on request, however. Not for the faint of heart. (45/PMZ)

★★★★★

NETWORK, "What Shall We Do Without Us? Original Music Soundtrack for Kenneth Patchen's Stage Play 'Don't Look Now'" ($10, Fantome Press, Trumbull Art Gallery, 720 Mahoning Ave NW, Warren, OH 44482): A variegated cassette of jazzy sax pieces, spacey New Agey keyboard compositions and ragtime boggy-woogy piano. The mood is both ethereal on "Flip" and blue on "Roger's Lonely Sax," Roger Hatfield's smokily forlorn solo piece. The moods mingle well, though, and cohesiveness is never lost due to the excellent compostions and incredible musicianship. (T/DW)

★★★★★

NEUROSIS, "The Word As Law" (Lookout Records, PO Box 1000, Laytonville, CA 95454): Heavy-duty brawncore with pulverizing moshes and the multiple voices from hell, busting into (comparably) minimal, jammier stuff. Lyrically, it's a hard, cruel world with plenty to be pissed off about. Ferocious, fuming, and relentless, Neurosis make you all too aware of your own hangups and hate complexes.(LP/TG)

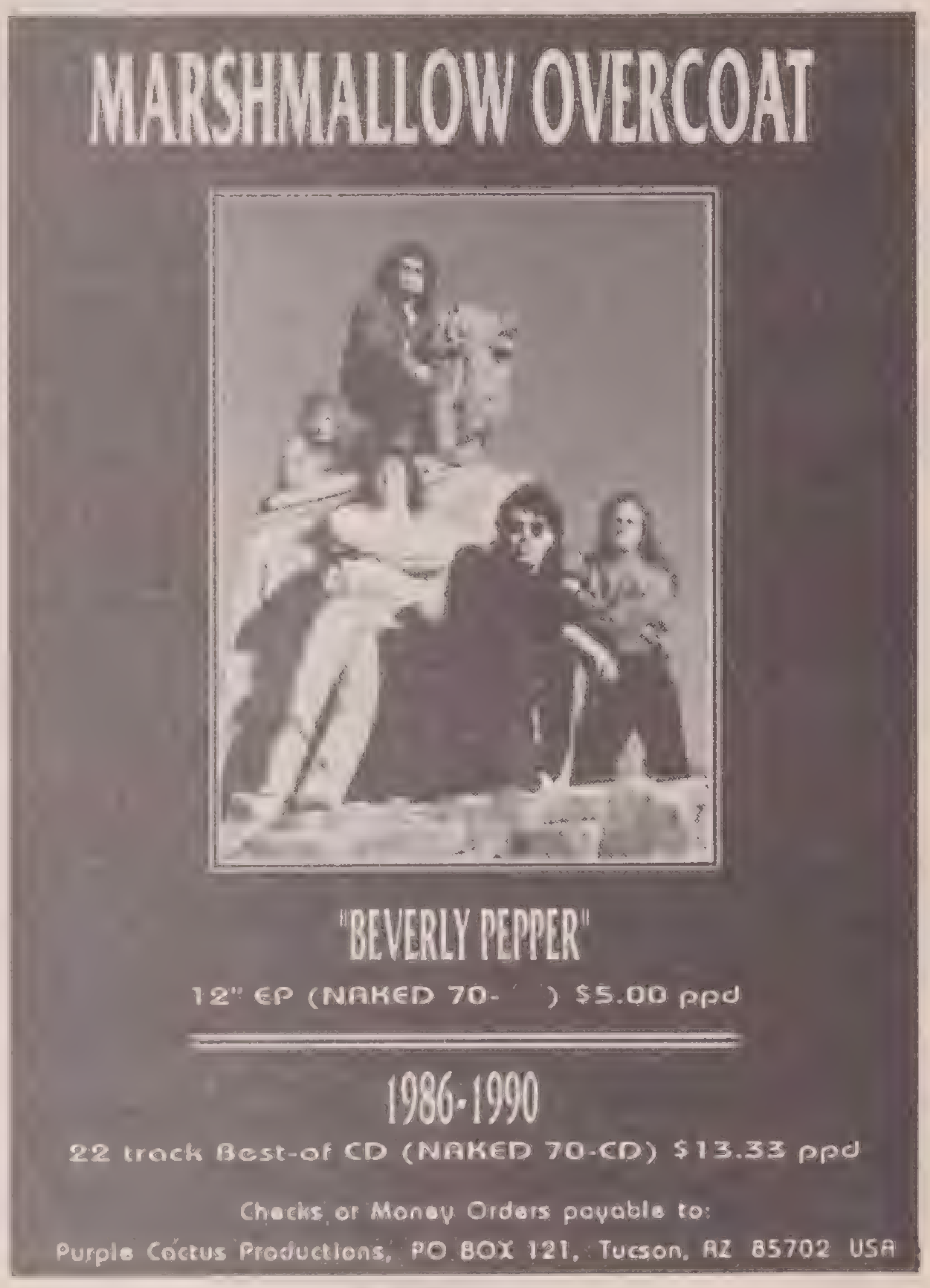
★★★★★

NEW DUNCAN IMPERIALS, "Feelin Sexy" (Pravda Records, 3728 North Clark St., Chicago, IL 60613): This is the perfect antidote for the dog days, a cranked-up garage rock and roll record that sucks in the heat and spits cold brew back in your face. The message is simple: throw a party, get drunk, act silly and play this record over and over again. The drummer's name is Goodtime, which sums this thing up better than I ever could.(EP/TG)

★★★★★

NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD JESUS, "Death Industry Volume Three" (Dysfunction Mail-Order, PO Box 750, Dracut, MA 01826): A collection of low-fi experiments; this tape actually includes volumes 1 and 2 as well. The offerings range from sheer aggravated noise to relatively folky guitar pieces. One-track recorders and sampling Casios keep the technical wizardry down to a minimum, but even with this setup they're able to put together some interesting textures. (T/MG)

★★★★★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NO FRAUD, "Cheezier Than Thou" ($4 from Dan Destructo, 475 Foxglove Rd., Venice, FL 34293): Mid-tempo metallic rock which shows good execution on this four-song tape. Dan is the lead singer here, putting out strong lyrics about consumerism and looking for a better life. The band has a clean sound that promises power without delivering distortion. (T/MG)

★★★★★

ROBERT NORMANDEAU, "Lieux inouls" ($18 from Diffusion i MéDIA, 4487 Rue Adam, Montreal, QUE, H1V 1T9, CANADA):The title here is French for "Unheard-of Places", and this is a challenging collection of electronic and sampled instrumentals. Some bits are chopped and blended, others feature breaking glass and ambient noise, still others depend on slow and ponderous tones. A lot of the content here is too far from music for me to enjoy it as such, though it still makes moderately interesting background noise. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

ONIONHOUSE, demo tape (208-1550 Richmond Ave., Victoria, BC, V8R 4P7, CANADA): Not bad for a demo tape; despite some rough spots, the band has pulled together a tight, clean sound, with touches of funk on a basically punk crossover base. "When Skies Burn" is the best song here, subject to multiple interpretations, but probably an anti-nuke statement fits it best. Postpunk but not too experimental. (T/MG)

★★★★★

OTHER PEOPLES CHILDREN, self-titled (Ermine Music, 61-A Franklin St, E. Rockaway, NY 11518): This folk/acoustic band finds their unique sound by setting steel string acoustic guitar against nylon string (and occasional mandolin) backed by the African percussion of chequere, gon gon, caxixis and conga. The sound is gutsy and bluesy, frequently demonstrating intricate playing with forcefulness and purpose. The songs encompass relationships, love through metaphor (and also magazine: "Two Dimensional Girl") and "Elephant" opposed to the senseless slaughter for ivory. Other songs include "Water Hot" from the Tolkien trilogy, and Pink Floyd's "Arnold Layne" done acoustically but with vigor. Energetic and pleasantly rootsy with a nice melodic sense. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

PAL JUDY, self-titled(ROIR, 611 Broadway, Suite 411, NY, NY 10012) Where new wave ran into dub, from 1980-81 Judy Nylon worked with producer Adrian Sherwood in London, forming the band Crucial and capturing their joint vision of reggae influenced sample danceable music. Never overworked or pretentious, Judy's often masculine voice sings in a spoken, experienced manner while the dead center layers of dark beats, quirky layers of sound, and thick bass build a solid foundation. Quite a variety of approachs are explored, from the militaristic beats of "Live in a Lift" to the oddly minimal cover of "Jailhouse Rock" that the Residents could learn from. A real credit to Roir for reissuing still vital music like this. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

MARK PAOLINI, "Living Room Atrocities" ($5.00 and a picture of anything from Fluxhollow, 7 Norman Ave, 1st Floor, Worcester, MA 01602) The 90 minutes of this cassette consist of experimental sounds, alone or under recordings of dialog or news clips, ending with three live performances of harsh sound and feedback. The studio sound pieces are of a murky quality, from droning darkness to pretty drifing guitar ambience; the voice overs are mostly untreated and comprehendable. The better moments are offset by a feeling of pointlessness in much of the material, particularly the voice pieces, where the listener is presented with one or more layers of dialog that are presumably of a purpose, as they are left intact, but which is not clearly discernable (or existent); perhaps I've missed the point, but it seems well hidden among the sound. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

THE PERFECT DISASTER, "Up" (Fire Records US, 611 Broadway #712, New York, NY 10012): Melodic British guitar pop, fleshed out by other instrumentation including cello, piano, and Spanish guitar. Bassist Josephine Wiggs has since left the band and took the cello with her, which is too bad as far as this sound goes, because her work made a big difference. Hopefully The Perfect Disaster will continue, bringing music that isn't quite as aggressively poppish as 4AD stuff to our shores. Lively and intricate tunes. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

PHINNEY/McGEE, "Usufruct" (Harsh Reality Music, PO Box 241661, Memphis, TN 38124-1661): A murky, electronic jam (recorded live, no overdubs) heavy on the sinister drones and garbled bleeps so typical of "space music." Rather arid and meandering to me, though—kind of like a voyage through the heart of a gaseous planet with all the spacecraft windows closed. Space may be deep, but it can be awfully boring, too. Catalogue of music and videos on request. (T/KS)

★★★★★

PINK TORPEDOS, "Theory of Relativity" ($4.00 from Flesh Tuxedo Productions, c/o E. Fowler, 3907 Wilbert Rd. (Rear), Austin, TX 78751): Raw, dirgy Texas guitar rock with monotonously offensive lyrics, mostly about fucking women. Funnier moments are "Successful Urinalysis" ("I'm anit-drug/'cause I don't have any right now") and "I Just Wanna Fuck You," which challenges the socially constructed formalities of dating. These pricks might sound a little more manly if they ditched their lousy machine for a real drummer. (T/KF)

★★★★★

PLEASURE HEADS, "Catholic Guilt" b/w "Foggy Notion" ($3 from Cubist Productions, 3408 Juliet St, Pittsburgh, PA 15213) Catholic Guilt builds a melodic progression with acoustic guitar into a frenzy as vocalist Debi Catanzaro's solid vocals describe desire supressed and religious misdirection, at the height screaming 'I don't give a damn about your catholic guilt.' Infectiously firm with it's quirky urgency, this is a tune that will stick with you after the needle lifts. The b side's cover of the Velvet Underground's "Foggy Notion" rocks hard in a cover that's faithful to the original in style and intent. On creamy white vinyl with a spider logo, this is a single worth checking into. (45/PMZ)

★★★★★

POI DOG PONDERING, "Wishing Like A Mountain And Thinking Like The Sea" (CBS, 51 West 52nd St., New York, NY 10019): The particular set of the vocals and the wandering light-heartedness of the fiddle brought to mind a country, almost bluegrass pace and atmosphere. But then the laconic approach and lazy swing to everything had me more in mind of a honky tonk kind of thing. But then again, the exotic extras like African-oriented mulit-rhythms and celtic flutings of the instruments open up a whole new ball game. I guess to sum it all up, it's a musical United Nations come home to roost in a get-down-home Kentucky bar. (LP/CS)

★★★★★

POOR EXCUSE, "Not Recommended for the Easily Offended" (RRI Box 161, Oxford Rd, Chester, NY 10918): I'm going to avoid the obvious play on the band title, and just say that this doesn't do anything for me. Using a Minor Threat yelling vocal style over hardcore distortion and an undercurrent of noise that sounds like someone's shaking a huge frame of springs, there's nothing specifically wrong here, but through 7 songs I could make out no particular attitude or direction that the band was pursuing, though they sound like they're hot to make some point. Reading the lyrics backs this up: outpourings of ideas and statements that kind of go together and rhyme, but never focus on anything. It doesn't help that the cassette doesn't function in 2 of my 3 tape decks. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

POOR RIGHTEOUS TEACHERS, "Rock Dis Funky Joint" (Profile, 740 Broadway, New York, NY 10003): This is really well done rap music with what appears to be a lighter touch than most rap being done these days. It's not "heavy" in the way that many street-rappers seem to have...Rather than aim for the audience with the thrust of a Mike Tyson, Poor Righteous Teachers go for more the Ali or Sugar Ray style of performance: dancing light on their feet they still deliver stinging blows but they do it in a way that belies its intent. With a one-two punch to the rhythm and a sharp uppercut to the melody this band is gearing up for a TKO of a release. (EP/CS)

★★★★★

POPE ALOPES, "Kerosene" (Skyclad Records, Inc., 6 Valley Brook dr., Middlesex, NJ 08846): A one stop pop shop for all your 80's college radio sound bites needs. A head worthy punch will sometimes wangle itself from the otherwise static heap of predictability. If tasty riffs gleam emergent when a cool naturalism prevails the failed bonds of contrivance and craft, then I'll spit on a pew and mutter an irresolute Act of Contrition. Onward...(LP/JCM)

★★★★★

PRISONSHAKE, "I'm Really Fucked Now" (Scat Records, PO Box 141161, Cleveland, OH 44114): A massive wonderful multi-format set from these ballsy, bluesy, rough-edged Cleveland rockers. In one package you get a CD of rough cuts for a forthcoming double LP, a clear-vinyl LP of remixes from past successful 7" records, a cassette of assorted out-takes and alternate tracks, and a 7" record that's a collaboration with My Dad Is Dead. Overall there's around two hours here of fine rock, high on energy, low on polish, and exciting to the core. (CD & LP & 45 & T/MG)

★★★★★

PROJECT, demo tape (Rock City Productions, 1415 Main St. #720, Worcester, MA 01603): Hard rock that is somewhere around the Rush axis. The demo is pretty low-fi, so it's hard to tell whether Project have a future beyond being just another bar band that plays seventies covers. They seem competent enough, but there's not a lot of spark here to make me want to hunt down more of their work. (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE PSEUDONYMPHS, "Girls With Balls" ($5 from PO Box 6785, Minneapolis, MN 55406): If they didn't tell you you'd never know all the members of this "valium thrash" group were women. They get a bit crude in places ("Premature Ejaculation" being one song title) but with the jagged machine-gun pulse and hoarse scream/blurt vocals it hardly matters. The music was recorded live, but doesn't suffer for that; instead it gains a punk immediacy. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Psi-seX #2 ($7 from 3210 25th St., San Francisco, CA 94110): An audio magazine which includes a fair amount of just plain music (something others in the genre often miss) as well as more outrageous things. The Carbon Yard in particular contribute a nice rocking tune. There's an interview with Stephen Parr followed by a long excerpt from the live performance "Smut Fest" he produces, some poetry from Craig Hellman, and a bit of snide humor. Sounding good after only 2 issues. (T/MG)

★★★★★

PSYCHIC TV, "Towards Thee Infinite Beat" (Wax Trax Records, 1659 N. Damen Ave., Chicago, IL 60647): Compared to what little PTV material I've heard in the past and what I've read about the band, this is a very accessible album. While there is still a lot of cleverness going on here with sampling and tapes and what not, the overall music is a lot closer to the dancefloor than to the factory floor. Undoubtedly this means that this is a record of multiple levels, from the purely physical to the more esoteric ones implied by lyrics and titles. Cool. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM #5 ($4 from Tom Long, 868 Greenview St., Gurnee, IL 60031): PAS is usually a written paper, but the folks involved also used to have a radio show at Northern Illinois University. That is, they did until allegedly obscene posters advertising a show by Otis Ball and the Chains appeared. The tape contains ranting and raving over the air, plus songs by Otis specifically about the incident. It also comes with copies of the posters in question, as well as a stupid article from the official paper. A cultural incident. (T/MG)

★★★★★

PULLTOYS, "Chair" (Fineline Entertainment, 5057 Madison Ave., San Diego, CA 92115): The manner to describe the Pulltoys is positioning the group between Firehouse and Tar Babies. "Chair" bridges the gap between pop and funk with ecstatic chord changes that shift faster than you can say "Jackie Robinson." Uptempo material that has a country ditty entitled, "Dead" that's not bad. The group could play closer attention to obtaining stronger lyrics on their next LP but "Chair" does not let you get a chance to catch your breath. (LP/KMB)

★★★★★

RANCID VAT, "No Royalties No Loyalties" ($4.00 from Al Records, PO Box 15085, Portland, OR 97215): The Vat kick things off with a raucous sloppy agreeably grungey cover of Three Dog Night's "Joy To The World" that moves quickly and humorously along. By the time you've swung to side two they're a swirling panorama of total hardedged grunge-core. Then they pull back and swing over to country for a little extra influence on "Sookie Sookie." Altogether a good release. (45/CS)

★★★★★

RAVEN, "Rock Until You Drop" (RC Records, 225 Lafayette St. #709, New York, NY 10012): A re-release of a classic English heavy metal album, with three bonus tracks. Basically, Raven is a group without a facade. Recognizing that sometimes people just like non-stop guitar madness and screaming vocals, they deliver. With songs like "Hell Patrol", "Inquisitor", "Wiped Out" and the title cut, you're guaranteed a thought-free hour of headbanging here. (T/MG)

★★★★★

RAVEN, "Wiped Out" (Roadrunner Records, 225 Lafayette St, Suite 709, NY, NY 10012): This metal trio's release is a reissue of their 1982 record of the same title, and also includes the EP "Crash, Bang, Wallop." Playing energetic and effective metal with growling, high pitched vocals occassionally reminiscint of Rush or even Focus, the band works as a tight unit through suprisingly complex compositions, with some subtle technical and melodic moments found amongst the general hyperactivity. This is a quality release from Roadrunner's new RC Revisited label, created to revive rare and unavailable metal; for fans of such, this should be a good start. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

REASON TO BELIEVE, "When Reason Sleeps Demons Dance" (Nemesis Records c/o Zed Records, 1940 Lakewood Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90815): Sorta crunchy four-piece fast-paced metallic rock. There's a bit of a drone here, but overall the band is doing a pretty good job when they're not in a rut. "What You Bring" is a harsh indictment of scene bullies of all sorts, worth hunting around for. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

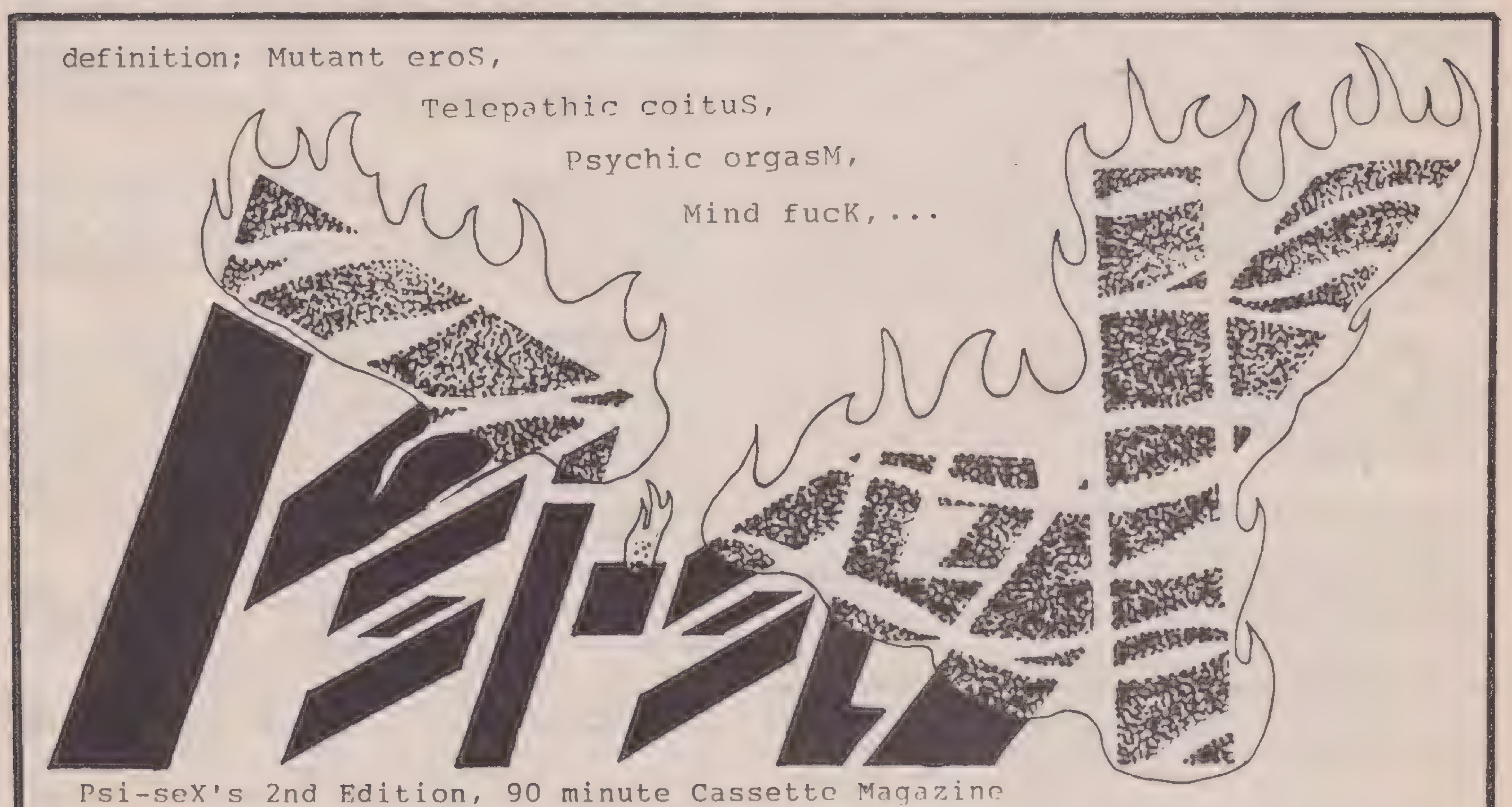
THE RECKONING, "Absence of Mind" ($4 from 548 Gardner Rd., Horseheads, NY 14845): A three-man power metal outfit that's still pursuing the demo tape road to fame. This five-song tape includes on ponderous, quieter number, but the bulk of it is as angry lyrically as it is hard musically. "See No Evil" makes a strong anti-racist statement, though its churning metal sludge will prevent many from hearing it. (T/MG)

★★★★★

REPTILE, "Fame and Fossils" (Bad Taste Ltd., 660 Bryant, San Francisco, CA 94107): Well, the fact that they're from Iceland, and the fact that they've got a hard to pin down jumpingly exciting sound is sure to send folks scrambling for comparisons and ties to The Sugarcubes. Don't waste your time, though. Instead enjoy this burst of rock and roll which is quite unlike most anything you've been listening to for what it is, beyond "quirky" and "offbeat". It's amazing how quickly the band shifts gears from intense rock to light pop and back again. (LP/CS)

★★★★★

RESISTORS, "Tiny Scars" (Rotz Records, 730 N. LaSalle St., Chicago, IL 60610): The Resistors are a German punk band, though it's awful hard to pigeonhole them. Their offerings range from the strongly political "Your Fascist



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$7.00 to P - X #2, Dennis C. Lee, 3210 25th St., S.F., CA 94110.

Mind" to the slow-paced and melodic "Where the Girls Are Pretty". If there's a center to their music, it's in the hardcore/metal crossover area, but whatever they're doing, they carry it off with elan and talent, and this is one of the more interesting punk records I've heard from any country lately. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

REST IN PIECES, "Under My Skin" (RC Records, 225 Lafayette St. #709, New York, NY 10012): It's interesting that RC can write an entire press release about this heavy-metal influenced hardcore group without once using the dreaded word "crossover". To my ear, though, it fits. The music here has the slow pounding pace of hardcore, growly vocals, and undeniably metallic guitar touches reminiscent of Judas Priest. The lyrics are in the socially responsible "I'm not going to take it any more" vein, short on deep analysis but long on feeling. (T/MG)

★★★★★

REVEREND HELLFIRE, "Walpurgisnacht" ($3 from Adam Douglas, Sturges Music, PO Box 6963, San Mateo, CA 94403): Complex and multi-layered industrial noise comprised of found soundtracks, saturated voice-overs, and the usual complement of howling keyboards and drum-machines—all run through whatever electronic effects seem appropriate. There are some arresting segments on this tape (with prominent use of stereo, I might add), but except for a few Aleister Crowley references, there doesn't seem to be much focus. Maybe that's good and maybe that's bad, but it left me unable to relate to much. Interesting, Anyhow. (T/KS)

★★★★★

REV. NATE & THE BROTHERHOOD, "Arsenio Hall" (T.O.G., PO Box 4542, Arlington, VA 22204) The two songs on this cassette single represent the 'goals and aspirations of Rev. Nate' and 'the reality.' The first is a catchy light rap tune with a calypso tinged melody and a good beat that speaks of the hope of rapping with Arsenio Hall. The other is a heavier tune about the problems with the 'Money Thang,' over a great beat, brass fills, cool guitar breaks, and a kind of scatting/hip-hopping vocal backing, ending as the money runs out. The strong melodies quickly grew on me, and the digital recordings make this a fine single that I listened to more times than were required for review. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

REVOLTING COCKS, "Beers, Steers + Queers" (Wax Trax Records, 1659 N. Damen Ave, Chicago, IL 60647): A rolling hammer of industrial dance, Revolting Cock's expanded line up delivers their first lp. From the whoops of "Beers, Steers + Queers," a rap influenced heavy beat piece, RC constructs heavy techno-beat compositions with repetitive percussion and bass lines, synth and sound layers, and distanced, distorted vocals. At their best the music is infectious and energetic, but as this format is prone to be, overlong monotony also sets in, as in the dark "In the Neck," where the phrase "Killing Machine" is severely overworked. A bit subdued for Revolting Cocks (no pornography pics this time), the music is in line with the dark dance energy of Ministry or Cabaret Voltaire, designed to make you sweat in your black leather jacket. (LP/PMZ)

★★★★★

NICK RIFF, "From the Heart of Oblivion" (Oblivion Studios, 2330 Wilmer St., Zanesville, OH 43701): 60's-styled garage music, with Riff playing everything from fuzz guitar to synth himself as well as providing the vocals. He doesn't worry too much about polish, but instead charges ahead, damn the torpedoes, and grapples with music that threatens to overwhelm him in a sea of fuzz and energy. Riff emerges victorious, and after the album is over one needs a break to catch one's breath. Not slick, just good. (T/MG)

★★★★★

JIMMY RYAN, "Finally" (Feedback Records, PO Box 31292, Chicago, IL 60631): Guitar instrumentals in a more-or-less hard rock mode from someone who came up through the ranks of session musicians. While Ryan undeniably has talent, this solo album lacks spark; even with the leaps of sound here it comes off as exercises rather than songs. Guitar solos alone just don't do it for me. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

SABOT, "Surface Tension" (Slime Records, 2702 18th St., San Francisco, CA 94110): Bassist Chris Rankin and drummer Hilary Binder demonstrate chops and intensity in a series of duets that sound straight out of a garage band background. Both musicians communicate with each other well and the emotional content is high, ranging from elation to almost ferocious anger. A neat record but probably best experienced in small doses. (LP/WM)

★★★★★

SACRED REICH, "The American Way" (Enigma, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): Sacred Reich mostly play some of the hardest, grungiest metal around. But they also wander off into other musical pastures, and these are prehaps more interesting. I enjoyed "Who's to Blame", which starts off with overblown Satanic riffs and ends up by telling parents to pay more attention to their kids. The funked-up "31 Flavors" was also fun. (T/MG)

★★★★★

SAD YOUNG MAN ON A TRAIN, "He Feels His Back Is Broken" ($5 from Poison Plant, 7 Woodsend Pl., Rockville, MD 20854): More uncategorizable music from Poison Plant. Intense and percussive—lots of distorted bass, sledgehammer piano, and violent guitar (with violin adding another texture on a few cuts) bury the enigmatic spoken vocals in a harsh blanket of sound. The whole thing synchronizes quite well with the industrial squeal of my coffee grinder without losing its own unique coherence, which is praise indeed. Music for loud days. (T/KS)

★★★★★

SAMIAM, self-titled (Lookout Records, PO Box 1000, Laytonville, CA. 95454): Samiam toe the line between aggressive college rock ("Too Many Buttons") and straight-out punk ("Tired of Waiting). They don't get up in your face about it, instead it's more of a gritty groove, with some interesting melodies and a Husker-Duish quality. "Dog Si Kram" (read it backwards) is some backwards noises that end this otherwise potent 4-song EP on a goofy note. What the heck.(EP/TG)

★★★★★

SAMIAM, self-titled (Samiam, 802 Colusa, Berkeley, CA 94707) Rooted in hardcore but with a more accessible and sophisticated sound, Samiam plays a dark and energetic style of rock that shows both humor and concern. Growling vocals over grinding, fast moving progressions are urged on by intricate drumming and solid bass work. The songs, from the viciously insightful "Home Sweet Home" to the biting yearning or "Ever Felt Avoided" deal with interpersonal relationships and self-realization sensitivitly and with humility. Great hooks and riffs abound, and at one point a cameo of Lucy in the Sky makes an appearance. Great back cover painting from guitarist Sergie alone is worth the price of the record. (LP/PMZ)

★★★★★

BLUES SARACENO, "Never Look Back" (Guitar Recordings, 10 Midland Ave., PO Box 1490, Port Chester, NY 10573): Slick and flashy lead guitar work from a young man following in the steps of the sixties greats (forget all those 70's and 80's wahoos). In fact, he's even played with Ginger Baker and Jack Bruce in a not-quite-Cream reunion. This album is solo work, even though he has a rhythm section behind him; the swooping licks and rapidfire changes of his lead are definitely the focus. My only complaint: thirty minutes is too short for a CD. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

K.D. SCHMITZ, "My Youth, My Apology" ($2 from RD 4, Box 217, Pleasant Valley, NY 12569): Solo rock with lots of electric guitar and a somewhat off the wall sense of humor. "Teenage Town" moves along nicely, while "Roll Over Elvis" is just plain strange. This is home taping, not studio work, so its roughness is to be expected, but within those parameters it's a good job. (T/MG)

★★★★★

MIMI SCHNEIDER, "The Extended Outlook" (Indelible Records, PO Box 703, Council Bluffs, IA 51502): This is great! Mimi sings and plays lead guitar, and is backed up by a band that plays more or less rootsy rock—though it wanders into odd byways,m a bit of swing, a bit of folk. The lyrics, clear and direct, wonderfully thoughtful, make the day here. Whether it's singing of privacy in "Top Secret", politics in "The Party Line" or the whole darned world in "Hamburger Wog", Mimi has the voice, delivery and writing skill to make an audience stand up and take notice. This one is staying close to my tape deck. (T/MG)

★★★★★

SCRAPING TEETH, demo tape (Esync Ocular Interchange, PO Box 380621, Miami, FL 33238-0621): Mad jam music recorded live in studio by this trio of avant garde rock musicians. They jam in a hard rock style, screaming distorted vocals over thick slabs of guitar sludge and greasy bass lines. More sonic poems than songs, the 11 pieces here provoke an unsettling atmosphere of chaos and delusion. (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE SECRETS OF CASH 'N CARRY, "Finest Fish" (Reptile Records, Irmgard Glassen, Schillingstr. 13, 4600 Dortmund 1, W. Germany): This West German trio plays pop rock with a folk and country flavor, adding occassional banjo to a standard guitar/bass/drum format. The upbeat music rolls along in songs like "Ants on the Highway" or "Farmer Song," opening up on "The Banquet of Grin," where the vocals become harsher and more expressive, or "The Morning After," with a stop/starting structure and a rich guitar sound that reminded me of the Big Guitars from Texas. For my tastes they could have skipped "These boots are made for Walking," but it does fit with their sound. (LP/PMZ)

★★★★★

SEX KITCHEN, "Devotion to the Mystic Law of Cause-Effect Through Sound" (Underestimate Recording, 215 Crescent St, Northampton, MA 01060): This hard rocking group is made up of 2 men and 2 women playing tight rock with a noisy approach that's capable of subtlety. With Joyce singing strong, forceful vocals, the songs include tunes about our numbed state of existence, one with the lyrics: 'the boys in ties unzip their flies for a gang rape on Madison Ave' and a Neil Diamond cover, though I don't think he ever sang 'but fuck it.' Recorded in only 3 hours, while the sound quality could be improved, it is more than clear enough to consider what a fun show they must play. The inserts back this up with a mutant cover drawing and odd lyric sheet. One caution: the band is emphatic to note that they are 'Kitchen,' definitely not 'Kitten.'(T/PMZ)

★★★★★

THE SHAKERS, "Songs From Beneath The Lake" ($7 from Carlyle Records, PO Box 150708, Nashville, TN 37215): Beautifully intricate and mysterious songs which layer a careful amount of electronic music on an acoustic bass. Rebecca Stout has one of those voices that you could listen to all night, gentle but strong, light and airy. They do a stunning cover of "The Rain Song", and plenty of fine originals as well, including the instrumental "Damballah-Wedo" and the haunting "City of Strange Delight". Their lyrics explore a vein of archetypal imagery, and their swirling music lends this a strong hand. (CS/MG)

★★★★★

REBBY SHARP, "In One Mouth And Out the Other" (Shimmy-Disc, JAF Box 1187, New York, NY 10116): Audible influences of folk (rural and protest), hymns, nursery rhymes and AOR are filtered through Ms. Sharp's clever wit. Some unlikely cover tunes show up, done with broad-stroke personal flair (request "Hard Acid Rain" on your fave college radio station). Lovely, full-bodied piano sound, opaque poetry and prodigious finger-picking appear incidentally in the crazy quilt. And somehow that doesn't account for it all: like the avant-garde chant of "Let the Piper Call the Tune" and the urgent, can't-get-it-out-of-your-head instrumental "These Venetian Eyes." All over the place, or maybe nowhere I can imagine, this debut is a glorious, inscrutable mess. (LP/KF)

★★★★★

SHRINKWRAP, "Of The Flesh" ($5 from Shrinkwrap Propaganda, PO Box 11831, Pittsburgh, PA 15228): Industrial music has gone downhill lately, with every Joe in the country thinking a few pots and pans is all that's needed to be avant-garde. Fortunately, this tape is a notable exception to that decline. From the jarring factory noise intro to the last fading wailing notes, Shrinkwrap will take you on a journey through the bowels of civilization, with an abrasive taste as your guide. This one will loosen your joints up but good. (T/MG)

★★★★★

SHOUTING CLUB, "Shhh..." (Dogbunny Records, 23622 Rowe, Dearborn, MI 48124): REM-flavored rock with rather wistful spacey lyrics. Even on their one cover version—the classic "Downtown"—they seem to infuse meaning into every word. Cormac's intricate guitar work and Walt's vocals are the core of the band, with idiosyncratic bass and drum rhythms helping the music stay open and far from stale. Could go places. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

SHUDDER TO THINK, "Ten Spot" ($6 from Dischord, 3819 Beecher St. NW, Washington, DC 20007) The first thing to strike you about this excellent band is the similarity in sound to The Who they present. Their sound is thoroughly modern, with excellent rhythm work (and a great drum sound), and cool controlled guitar distortion, but the vocals, alone or in harmony, will continually recall a Tommy era Who. This is, fortunately, through realization of that approach and energy, and not from derivative commercial design. And really, the excellent, imaginitive lyrics, interesting vocal phrasing and awesome climaxes more than justify the unique aspects of this foursome, making them one of the new bands worth checking out. (LP/PMZ)

★★★★★

THE SILLY PILLOWS, "a la Mode" ($4 from Jonathan Caws-Elwitt, Pillow Image, RR-1 Box 132-E3, Friendsville, PA 18818) Relaxed melodic pop songs with 60's influences, this two member (husband and wife?) group has Jon Caws-Elwitt playing keyboards, guitar, drum machine and tambourine while singing with Hilary C-E in a simple, folky manner. The 11 songs on this tape are from two prior cassetes, and feature songs like "If You Were" (who you think you are I'd like you very much) and "Naked People," a silly tune about what's really below our clothing. Neither profound nor technically perfect, the songs are pleasant and unpretentious offerings from two people who evidently enjoy writing and recording what they release. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

SKINYARD, "Fist Sized Chunks" (Cruz Records, PO Box 7756, Long Beach, CA 90807): Each time I hear from Skinyard it seems they're undergoing some kind of metamorphosis. From an artsy rock type of band to the present, each release has captured some new and different facet of the band's personality. Here they're much more metal-influenced than in the past, going for a heavier sound. But don't think that they can be pigeon-holed; no matter what the band may lean towards, they still rear back to throw an occasional change-up into the delivery to keep you on your toes. Metal may predominate, but there's a definite rock burst of spirit and rowdyness, and an artsy-craftsy take on how it's all pulled together. (LP/CS

★★★★★

SMASHING PUMPKIN, self-titled (Limited Potential Records, PO Box 268586, Chicago, IL 60626): "I Am One" is just a terrific song. It starts off with the thumping thunder of the guitar refrain in GnR's "Welcome to the Jungle" and then undercuts it with a searingly caustic acid drenched buzz and sneering vocals that give it just the right touch of nasty madness to make it truly memorable. "On My Own" is softer fare, still with that psychedelic edge but more a guitar pop lament. (45/CS)

★★★★★

G.W. SMITH AND FAMILY, "The Best of G.W. Smith and Family" (G. Stomberg, 303 S. 5th St., Oregon, IL 61061): Country-western music that's mainly simple guitar pickings and somewhat hangdog vocals. I don;t get much spark from it, and it doesn;t help that this was apparently taped from a stack of 45's; you can hear the needle dropping on to the record between tracks. (T/MG)

★★★★★

LINDA SMITH, "Gorgeous Weather" (Harriet Records, PO Box 649, Cambridge, MA 02238) The major labels could learn something from the complex simplicity of this self-recorded, highly personal music: working with a 4 track recorder, Linda Smith has captured the warm essense of her sophisticated, strongly melodic, acoustic edged music. Taking place over a wonderful blend of acoustic and electric guitar and a richly layered, relaxed rhythmic base, these three songs, personal slices of life from inside the mind, are carried by the lilting breathy quality of Smith's voice, with her unique, personal vocal phrasing. From "Gorgeous Weather's" strong guitar repetition to the more acoustic "All That I Can Give," this is beautiful music that conveys the intimacy of personal expression. (EP/PMZ)

★★★★★

SMOG, "I Was Born the Day Kafka Died" ($6 from Bill Callahan, PO Box 820, Pasadena, MD 21122) Bill Smog plays a dirty, blues influenced guitar over feedback and guitar noise on these 49 pieces (90 minutes total), that also feature muted, distorted vocals in a Pussy Galore vein. The sound is raw and unpolished, and the tape difficult to take as a whole, but taken in smaller doses interest is held by the varying noise assaults presented: nothing is overworked, and number of the segments are wonderfully odd. My only complaint then is length: here less could be more by cutting some of the less pointed, looser cuts in favor of a shorter, tighter exposition of sound. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

SMOG, "Tired Tape Machine" ($5 from Bill Callahan, PO Box 820, Pasadena, MD 21122): About thirty short busts of sound that could be considered "songs" by the unusually charitable. Most are Bill singing accompanied only by his own weirded-out fuzzy guitar, making short chops of noise underneath his straining vocals. These are interspersed with highly layered bursts of sheer noise based apparently on found sounds. Pretty rocky stuff. (T/MG)

★★★★★

SNAKE RIVER, "Spinach EP" ($3 from Bonehead Rex, 925 Post, San Francisco CA 94109) Bounded by the silly harmonies of pop america, illustrated with the spinach rich world of Popeye and spinning on green vinyl, this trio plays a relaxed, dirty sounding rock that feels somehow rooted in the West. The overall sound is distant, partly by recording some of the guitar parts via walkie-talike; the vocals also seem deliberately thin, but where intent and the fact that they recorded in a basement delimit this distance is hard to define. The approach is somewhat eclectic, as with "Coming Rains," where Quadrophenia's rain sample is displaced by almost tribal beats, building to a distorted climax, relieved by toy xylophone. Rough and not technically advanced, but strangely interesting. (7"/PMZ)

★★★★★

SODA CAN, "Powertool" (Forefront Records, 280 Fairmont Ave., Chatham, NJ 07928): You may need a physician after digesting this document that channels definite explosive energy through all eighteen numbers. "Powertools" by Jersey's Soda Can floods the listener with very crisp bass, guitar and drums interplay that does highlight the good things about funkcore, it moves your booty. The songs such as "Texas Gun Shop" or "Funky Fondue" spring to mind The Minutemen, Agitpop, or Tar Babies. Heavy chunky material that's faster than a speeding bullet. This is very recommended for those wanting a serious party tape. (T/KMB)

★★★★★

THE SOMEDAY PEOPLE, "Legendary Straight Edgers From Boston" PO Box 384, Front Royal, VA 22630): Jokey low-fi musicrecorded in all its silly tinniness for the world to hear. The audio matches the subject matter, which includes songs about liposuction, Lisa Suckdog, and "Bela Lugosi's Rap". Amusing in a SubGenoid way, but no great shakes as great music. (T/MG)

★★★★★

SONIC YOUTH, "Goo" (DGC Records, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, NY, NY 10019): The 7th SY record is a great slab of hard, cool pop songs and out

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and out sonic assault. From the driving altered pop and transition to edged sonic beauty of "Dirty Boots" to the raging guitar descents of the Karen Carpenter dedicated "Tunic;" from the extended throbbing freeway ending "Mote" to the strong energies of "Titanium Exposé," all about are clangorous guitar noises, crazed breakdowns, and welling walls of sound. "My Friend Goo" is the only weak moment, and its silliness is offset by the tight band work heard throughout Goo, showing the extended language of sound Sonic Youth works with. That language seems rawer here than on Daydream Nation, perhaps as they flaunt their freedom and integrity while in the lair of a major label; in that position, it's impressive to hear a band so obviously care about their music while managing not to give too big a shit. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

SPLINTER FISH, self-titled ($11 from Street Sound, 130 Quincy NE, Albuquerque, NM 87108): This group calls their sound "avant-desert"; if you want a more familiar referent, try "complex pop". Chuck's lead guitar fusillades and Debo's singing carry the day, a relentless upbeat feeling even when their curious lyrics get into more ambiguous areas. The music bounces and encourages, it's hummable, it's danceable, what more can you ask from a record? (LP/MG)

★★★★★

THE SQUARES, "Answer" (Susstones Records, PO Box 6425, Minneapolis, MN 55406): Very familiar sounding rootsy, slightly raucous rock—the opening cut is a dead ringer for "Squeezebox", and folks like Tom Petty came to mind throughout. The music isn't bad, just rather derivative, and the band seems to be having a darned good time playing it. Don't look for anything outrageously new and different here, just some mellow bouncy rock. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

STALWART, "Monomania" & "Perfect Defense" (122 Water St. #1, New York, NY 10005): A powerful band that plays something like lightly technic polished thrash-pop. The production is tight, and these two rough cuts from a forthcoming album are promising. The vocals have a shouted, near anthemic quality that is appealing if not particularly educational, and the guitar work doesn't let up until the end. Little bits of whine and noise and keyboard manipulation add to the fun. (T/MG)

★★★★★

STARVATION ARMY, "Execution Style" (Rave Records, PO Box 40075, Philadelphia, PA 19106): First thing you notice about the music here is a wild, almost jittery energy that infuses their particular brand of hard rock with an infectiously boundless energy. Dirge pop? Sleazustrial noise? How about Grungarage? Hairy metal? Heavy mental? They're a little bit of everything whose whole is more effective than the sum of their parts—it's this approach that makes their music identifiably unique. (LP/CS)

★★★★★

STEEL POLE BATHTUB, "Lurch" $7 from Boner Records, PO Box 2081, Berkeley, CA 94702-0081): Probably the guys in SPB should have been demolition experts instead of musicians. Their idea of playing is to slop all the noise they possibly can into each track, heavy guitars, chaos, found sounds, whatever—and then cram a few more decibels in between. Wonderful stuff, perhaps not quite as exciting as their surprise first album, but still enough to give me my adrenalin high for the day without any problem at all. Includes a cover of "Paranoid" and a 36-page lyrics comic book by the band. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

THE STRAWBERRY ZOTS, "Card, Flowers and Telephones" (RCA Records, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036): Cheesy keyboards and silly vocals prevail in this nutty bunch of Albuquerque folks. Their attitude is sort of Dead Milkmen meet garage psychedelia, and most of the music (with the exception of the dreary Laugh-In inspired closing "Hey Jill!") is both fun and good listening. Absolutely nothing deep here, just something to zone out on at the end of the day. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

STUKAS, "Somewhere Inside" ($5 ppd. from Really Fast Records, Box 6170, 102 33 S Stockholdm): "Spiffidge" is energetic, feedback drenched pop rock using male and female harmonies over a fast, pop drum beat, a short solo working its way in. "Hey Baby" uses an almost rockabilly beat over energetic feedback in an upbeat but cliched tune that even uses a quick, silly 50ish vocal break. Though they're covering well trodden musical ground, the band has the solid energy to play right on; what they need is uniqueness. (45/PMZ)

★★★★★

SUCKDOG, "Little Flowers Dying" ($8 from PO Box 1491, Dover, NH 03820): Suckdog is an abnormal approach to sound and voice, which may be summed up by Lisa Suckdog's own whine "I don't feel good." Lisa Carver (Suckdog) brings out dark stream of concious fears and images, which she describes in voices ranging from girlish simpleness to loud whining, moaning and bitchy screaming. "There's Something in Me Ugly" is a perfect example of the Suckdog sickness, as Lisa whines "there's no one here to hit me," "I don't want to die at 19" or "it's not something I can vomit out, it's something inside me." Other pretty tunes include the 3 part "Little Flowers Dying" sung in a girlish voice over an oriental melody, or the strange images of "A Call to the Sun" which ends by being raped by nature. The music of Suckdog-er Costes is constructed of minimal piano, guitar, banging percussion, synth, or simply noise, all appropriate to the Suckdog approach of using anything at hand while digging deep into the dark subconcious. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

SUPERCHUNK, "Slack Motherfucker" b/w "Night Creatures" ($3 from Merge Records, PO Box 1235, Chapel Hill, NC, 27514) Energetic and hard rocking, Superchunk plays in a Dinosaur Jr. style with closely harmonized vocals urging on angry lyrics. Less punk than they describe themselves, "Slack Motherfucker" unloads it's heavy energy with loud distortion and a feedback washed solo. This continues with the b side cover of the Fly's "Night Creatures," where heavy handed guitar and a rolling bass line drives the shouting chorus that finishes out this high power single. (45/PMZ)

★★★★★

SWAMP DOLLS, "Six Pack" (Punk Etc. Records distributed by Play It Again Sam Records, 67 Rue de Cureghem, 1000 Brussels, Belguim): "Six Pack," the six song EP from this Stooges influenced Belgian band, lacks energy and originality. Being unique isn't the most important factor for any band, but all of the Swamp Dolls' songs have the same structures; only the lyrics have changed. Mudhoney does this with much more enthusiasm. (LP/LJC)

★★★★★

T21, "Plays the Pictures" (Wax Trax, 1659 N. Damen Ave., Chicago, IL 60647): Languid, moving pieces of somewhat ambient music, with simple vocals and lots of strings (although judging by the slickness, the strings may be electronic). Pieces like "Take the Shock Away" and "One Last Play" succeed by simplicity and repetition within a framework of lush atmospherics. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

TALISMANIA BLAC, untitled ($3 from Matt been Clawed, 26198 Spring Grove Rd. #4, Antioch, IL 60002): Or maybe that *is* the title; there was no info at all with this tape. It's mainly improv-sounding piano playing, though even here I don't know whether the musician was working from a score or making it up as he went along. Judging by the occasional sour note, I rather hope the latter is the case. Breaks into surreal poetry at the end of side two. (T/MG)

★★★★★

TANG S'DANG, "Adult Love Boutique" (Dive Records, PO Box 4218, Sunnyside, NY 11104): Complexly interwoven three-piece pop/rock with plenty of nifty beats and strange lyrics. Their clean and open sound reminds me somewhat of the Bandables, another group I liked a few years back. Try "Dominoes", with lyrics that can be read as either a pop apocalyptic vision or just a comment on the changing face of life. And keep those drums thumping. Neat music for open ears. (T/MG)

★★★★★

TAOIST COWBOYS, "Cholo" (2306 Laurel Ave., Knoxville, TN 37916): Somewhere on the pop to punk locus, usually closer to the pop end of things. They do introspective childhood songs ("Baby Pool"), surreal love songs ("The Color Purple") and a hot cover of the Nancy Sinatra staple "These Boots Are Made for Walking". A couple guitars, vocals, guest banjo, a real rootsy sound shines through. I like these guys. They're simple and direct and manage to sound like they're having a good time playing. (T/MG)

★★★★★

FLORENCE TARRE, "Come Walk With Me" ($10 from 1709 Alder Ct., Bozeman, MT 59715): Gentle folky music, with Florence singing and playing acoustic guitar. The copyright is to "Healing Productions" and that's appropriate, since the basic message of this music—as expressed in word and melody—is that it's OK to slow down, be loved, and take it easy for a while. I particularly liked "Don't Push The River", an object lesson for everyone who frets about controlling the world and working efficiently. (T/MG)

★★★★★

TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES, "Tactics" ($4.00 from Technical Difficulties, 50 Cross Ridge Rd, Chappaqua, NY 10514) Technopop describes this 4 songs cassette that unabashedly presents cliche-ridden commercial music aimed for acceptance. The instrumentation—synth, drums and guitar—is handled by Jeremy Stone in a complex but highly molded manner, punctuated with short, deliberate solos; 2 songs end oddly by quick fade, as though among all his skill, Stone is unable to write endings to all his songs. Lyrics, also by Stone, on page show some depth, but under Sophie Dykmans' cold and stylized vocal manner result in an unemotional and even self-parodying reading. To my ears there is a tremendous amount of talent wasted here; I'd be interested to see what Stone's abilities could produce if he followed his own instincts rather than those of the marketplace. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

TENT OF MIRACLES, "Stan" ($6 from Dancing Fish/Susan Lapper, #2-381 Roncesvalles Ave., Toronto, ONT, M6R 2M8, CANADA): Hot spicy sharp rough-edged rock. Susan's voice is the key here, tying together rock guitar and simple drum lines into bales of buzzsaw melody. Reminds me a bit of very early Throwing Muses, but less poppy—more entrancing than charming. (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE TERRIBLE PARADE, "Where Were You When The Lights Went Out" (Presto! Records, PO Box 1081, Lowell, MA 01853): First release in five years for this moody twang-laden Midwest bunch. The music is gentle and reflective, heavy on the interplay between Alan and Marc on vocals and guitars, with a retiring rhythm section behind them. "Masquerade" is a powerful song of denied love that evaporates with the passage of time. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

TGT, "White Stains" (Wax Trax, 1659 N. Damen Ave., Chicago, IL 60647): The group's name is an acronym for "The Genetic Terrorists" and their PR calls this "industrial acid techno house", stealing a march, I suppose, on reviewers who now have precious little room for repigeonholing the record. The beat comes first here, fueling 7- and 8-minute long pieces which relentlessly drone along, making for robotic dance music. It's polished and lacks the vocal recycling of much of the genre, though, so I give it a passing grade. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

THEY WHO MOVE (FEATURING NADEE JONES), "They Who Move" (Profile Records, 740 Broiadway, New York, NY 10003): An insistently catchy rhythm and warm, encouraging vocals really make you want to dance (I know because I'm the world's worst klutz and it certainly did it for me!). Since it's four very similar versions of the same song there's not a whole lot to go into in depth. Suffice it to say that I wouldn't mind hearing more from these guys...sort of TSOP'ish but with more groove and dash. (EP/CS)

★★★★★

THOMPSON/HUGHES, "Alternate Universe" (Perimeter Records, PO Box 28882, Atlanta, GA 30358): Spacey, ponderous, slow-moving music from far-out corners of the universe. Judging from titles like "Singularity: and "Ultraviolet Catastrophe" someone here knows some physics. Of special; note is the fact that no keyboards are involved in this production, helping along the aura of other-worldliness. Something to echo in the caverns of your mind. (T/MG)

★★★★★

TINNITUS, "Loxodrome" (Perimeter Records, PO Box 28882, Atlanta, GA 30358) In a sense Tinnitus presents two releases with this 90 minute cassette, compiled from 7 previous releases. First, the A side, presents the more acoustic side of this band: reed improvisations and interactions in a Berne/Zorn vein, mixed with electronics, voice, and drum machine. The pieces set quirky upper register, choked playing against long graceful lines in music that shows a controlled energy that does not beat you over the head. The second 'release,' the B side, concentrates on more broadly experimental work, mostly electronic, with sound expositions that at times recall an early Sonic Youth influence. In all, an excellent presentation of this interesting band's work. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

TOADSTOOL, "The Sun Highway" (Twin\Tone Records, 2541 Nicollet Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN 55404): The more I listened to Toadstool the more I liked them. Their stuff really flies. They have a raw edginess that jives well with their energetic bursts of almost jazzlike rock...if you can somehow imagine a cross between Santana and Soul Asylum you can get at least the glimmer of an idea of where Toadstool is heading. Phrases like "garage soul" or "jazz metal" or "improv rock" kept going through my head, but they didn't do the band as much justice as I would've liked. Still, they get you started and once you listen on your own you can take it from there. (LP/CS)

★★★★★

TONE DOGS, "Ankety Low Day" (C/Z Records, 1407 E. Madison #41, Seattle, WA 98122): This is an album of noise and music that is variously pop, jazz, and nothing at all, featuring wild mixes of guitars, keyboards, sax, vocals and less likely instruments. It's infectious after a while, but the barrier to learning to like it is fairly high if you're used to more accessible music. Idiosyncratic but very honest. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

TREEHOUSE, "Strawberry Pie" b/w "Shag Carpet" (Meat Records, 1220 S 120 St, Tacoma, WA 98444): The Washington Treehouse turns in a great single with these two tunes, starting with the high energy, totally upbeat "Strawberry Pie." Almost a 60's hard pop sound, the harmonies hit on the hook and the wah guitar solo pushes this tune on to a point of high excitement. "Shag Carpet" reaches down into the gut for a look at suicidal despair surrounded by dark guitar progressions and a great bass sound, while Washington cohort Steve Fisk fills out the sound with organ that swells with the emotion yanked out of this heartfelt tune. On pink wax, this is a cool and intense single from the land of great rock. (45/PMZ)

★★★★★

TRUST OBEY, "The Veil" ($4.00 from John Bergin, 4503 Washington St, KC, MO 64111) From the spawn of Throbbing Gristle and their like comes this dark music, which builds on repetetive blocks of heavy beats, guitar tension, feedback and distortion, and whispering or distant distorted voice. "The Veil" may be an anagram for evil (my speculation); regardless, this music is the backing of a mass to draw the dark forces. Black and white insert of this chrome tape links 'trust' to the cross and 'obey' to the sledgehammer. Good tape for the drive to Anton LaVey's house. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

TV PERSONALITIES, "Privilege" (Fire Records, 472 Greenwhich St, 5th Floor, NYC, NY 10013): The British TVP's first new album in 5 years hints at quirkiness with whimsical lp covers, but turns out to be simply straightforward pop. The pretty, well woven songs are built on sparse

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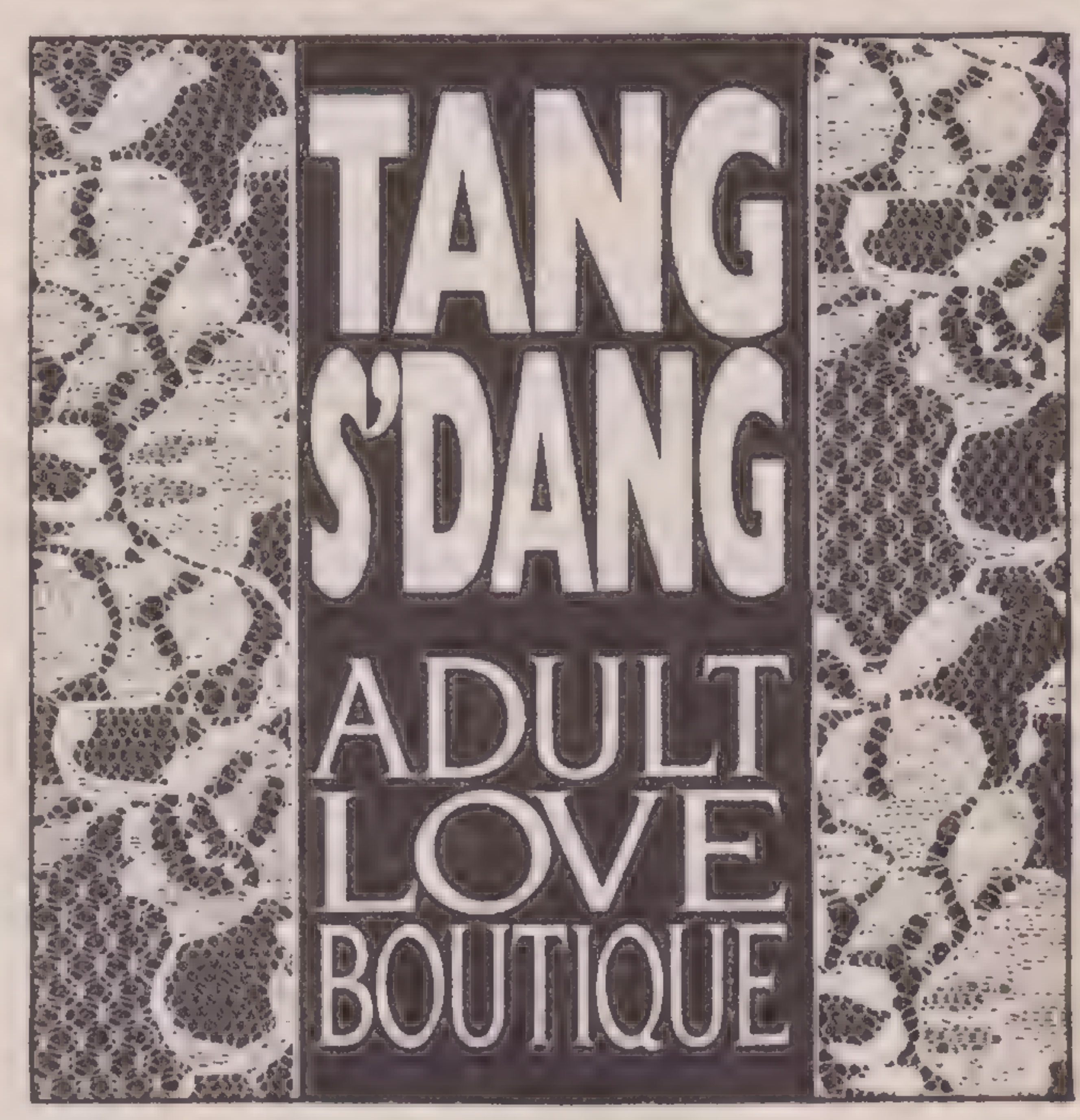

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arrangements of guitar, bass, and drums that sound programmed (though they're not), with little synth melodies worked in; the extremely clean production removes any sense of warmth and emotion, creating a cold, sterile sound. Titles like "Salvador Dali's Garden Party" disappoint by invoking the name of surrealism while delivering straight ahead pop; only "All My Dreams Are Dead" holds a sense of sophisticated emotion, but in the midst of the insipidness surrounding it, it's easily lost. The insert implies that there's intellect behind this band, but it's mostly hidden amongst the cold constructions of these commercialized tunes. (LP/PMZ)

★★★★★

URBAN FORCE ORGANIZATION, "Review Export Product" (PerPlex, PO Box This 451, Ridgefield, CT 06877) This tape is a compilation of music from UFO's two tapes: "Intimidator" and "Analysis," which are available for $4.00 from the above address. Included are live and studio works from this electronic organization that creates music based on energetic repetitions of drum programs, heavy synth sounds and sharp, slappy bass work. On top of this, overdubbed speeches and samples of a political bent are added, as well as some animal samples. The interest of the music is offset by the extremely distant quality of the recording; the promo material warns: "Don't play this tape too loud on expensive audio equipment (unless you're a yuppie or something)." Yuppie or no, this really detracts from otherwise interesting electronic music. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

THE VACANT, self-titled ($2.50 from 3456 SE Salmon St., Portland, OR 97214): A three song live tape of fast-paced pop music. Vocalist Tanya Harris has an attractive voice, capable of both a perfect '50s catch and a solid '90s attack. She also plays bass, combining with Todd Harris's guitar work and Tom Kilman on drums. The polish is evident, even in a live tape, and this should draw some interest if it's shopped around. (T/MG)

★★★★★

STEVE VAI, "Passion and Warfare" (Relativity, 187-07 Henderson Ave, Hollis, NY 11423) This album displays Vai's enormous talents that draw heavily from fusion, metal, and the sound that made Zappa records like "Them or Us" so exciting. Over primarily instrumental, complex harmonic and rhythmic progressions, Vai demonstrates his advanced guitar vocabulary and technique in melodic solos that take place at blinding speeds, tasteful electric/acoustic solos, and beautiful feedback drenched sustain solos. The songs are constructed with voice and lyrics that loosely carry the themes of love, animalism and religion, or are simply humorous. Whether a metal, progressive rock, or Zappa fan, this album is likely to please. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

VANCOUVER CHAMBER CHOIR, "Harp of David" and "Night" ($23.98 list from Centrediscs, 20 St. Joseph St., Toronto, ONT, M4Y 1J9, CANADA): Two vocal works with very dramatic arrangements, accompanied by string quartet and double bass. "Harp of David" is an arrangement of selected psalms, and it manages to impart a religious feeling in the context of modern vocal work, restoring some of the mystery which undoubtedly surrounded the originals. "Night" is based on a poem by Robinson Jeffers, which once again does very well in a choral setting. Centrediscs continues to issue unusual and interesting works. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "10 ROIR Years" (ROIR Inc., 611 Broadway, Suite 411, NYC, NY 10012): Most of us would find a compilation of compilations rather bizarre, but ROIR avoids that paradox with this release by not including any selections from their compilation releases. My only complaint with this approach is that it skews this cassette more towards one musical style (namely "alternative" rock) at the expense of others. Still, they manage to mix it up well enough to make it interesting with cuts from Nico, Durutti Column and Glenn Branca. Not necessarily a collector's item (it was meant to be more of a celebration of their anniversary), but a good time and a pleasing overview of this label for the beginner. (T/KJ)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Aural Augasm #7" (90 Chiswick Lane, Chiswick, London W4, England) This sampler tape is the audio only of a joint tape/ magazine from London, due out somtime around the end of this year. The tape is split between music and spoken word pieces, including Burrough's intelligent perspective on the war on drugs, an excerpt from Ted Bundy's final interview, and an outrageously subtle prank phone call. Live cuts from The Pixies and Big Black (including an Albini phone interview) are interspersed with harsh experimental pieces from the Augasm studio itself. An interesting collection to complement what should be a great magazine. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Brain Food" (Dead Issue Records, P.O. Box 1645, Staten Island, NY 10314): No band on this compilation breaks any new ground, but that doesn't mean it can't be an enjoyable once through for fans of the hardcore/punk scene. All the bands represented here are from the New York City area with one exception from Philadelphia. (LP/KJ).

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Color Through the 80's" ($6 from Mike Honeycutt, Mystery Hearsay, PO Box 240131, Memphis, TN 38124-0131): A collection of music from England's Color Disc records. It opens with a fine track from Lives of Angels, and goes on through a lot of spacerock and mildly psychedelic material, as well as odder stuff like the jazzy "New England" from The Ordinary. The sound quality is good and the pacing rather slow and careful. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Destroy and Be Free" ($3 from Chris Caggiano, 1737 Grove St. #1, Ridgewood, NJ 11385): A punk comp tape that comes with a 44-page lyric and contact booklet. The quality here varies from pretty decent to abysmal, with a lot of the cuts having a live sound to them. Worht listening for are Lie Detectors' "Dick-Tator North" (in which Ollie takes over the country), the somewhat overblown "Hunt Saboteurs Will Never Give Up" by Media Children, and compiler Chris Caggiano's own outraged spoken rap "Destory and Be Free!". The sort of punk your parents don't want to catch you listening to. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Guitar's Practicing Musicians" (Guitar Recordings, 10 Midland Ave., PO Box 1490, Port Chester, NY 10573):A collection of folks making their guitars sing, squeal, jump through hoops and otherwise show off. Standout tracks include "Gamera is Missing" from Blue Oyster Cult's Buck Dharma, Blues Saraceno with "The Shakes", and a cover of Coltrane's "Giant Steps" by Jennifer Batten. Enough riffs to make your head swim. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Individual Pop: Delay" ($7 from Claus Korn, Alte Burgstr. 1, D-8830 Treuchtlingen, WEST GERMANY): An international compilation of experimental pop music, broadly considered. There are people working with new sounds (Oregon's Heather Mae Perkins, England's Religion), others into the techno-beat dance sound, still others with the sort of lush string-laden sound one associates with 4AD recording artists. Overall it's a fun collection with a distinctly European spin to it, and well-assembled into an hour of danceable but unusual music. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "The Killer Blow" (Jim Clevo Presentations, PO Box 110161, Cleveland, OH 44111): A compilation of Cleveland area bands, with some slant towards the garage but overall a good mix of rock and pop. Standouts include the luscious vocals and pop sound of The Walk-Ins, the roosy "Buffaloes" by The Bounty, and the rhythmic madness of Ballyhoo. Also amusing is the closing "You Broke my heart, I broke your face" by Bluto's Revenge. Indian Rope Burn put in a special appearance too. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "La Mort" (Come-Together Productions, 9 Rue Marquis, 76100 Rouen, FRANCE): A compilation featuring the groups Weird Asylum, Wunderlich Ausgang, Little Seed and M.Nomised—a quartet of pop/experimental/industrial artists. Weird Asylum in particular (at least I think it's them—the tape insert is a jumbled mess) play an aggravating brand of squealing screeching overly clever rock that could stand to be thoroughly beaten with a stick. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Life's Tough for the Stupid" (Rave Records, PO Box 40075, Philadelphia, PA 19106): This double Rave single starts with More Fiends' search for fun at the "Big Tea Party," where Elizabeth-Aquanetta and her friends will chew aspri-gum while listening to their bands' hard driving tune. Starvation Army turns in a dark tune with harsh vocals over grinding guitars in "Conquistador," with a short screaming guitar solo to liven things up. The Big Thing's "DeNile" really pulls out the 70's thing with deep distorted guitar chords that end with a screechy, wandering feedback. Reverb Mother Fuckers provides the weirdest cut in the banjo-fied countryish "Ballad," where they sing about the inevitablility of trouble. Their belch ends this double colored single that any hard rock fan needs to check out. (2*45/PMZ)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Ninety-Ninety" ($8 from New Hope International, 20 Werneth Avenue, Gee Cross, Hyde, SK14 5NL, UK): A cllection of poetry (and a bit of music) to commemorate the first 20 years of small press work by editor Gerald England. There are dozens of lovely pieces here. A few standouts: Glenda Wintein's sensitive "Malcolm's Little Sister", Martin Grampound's nasty "Merry Christmas"; and the longish "Elegy for Jack Kerouac" by Chris Challis. An amazing collection. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "One Voice . Pride" (Enigma Records, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): A compilation of songs related to "black pride and cultural awareness". There's a lot of rap here, a lot of dance music, a lot of famous quotes (from Martin Luther King to the fall of the Berlin Wall) [illegible] Special [illegible], [illegible], Schooly D, Mr [illegible] Robb[illegible] B and DJ jazz. Mostly upbeat [illegible] angry, and well done. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Panx Vinyl Zine #5" (120f IMO from Panx, BP 5058, 31033 Toulouse Cedex, France): Panx is a French label that puts out a vinyl zine—a 7" 45 with a pamphlet sized magazine—Zine #5 presenting five hyper hardcore bands. The first side is sung (or often strangle/ shouted) in English, Deceit and Gol's lyrics concerned with exploitation and hypocrisy, while A.C.M.E. opens with the egocentric "I Want Some," CMX playing a short hard instrumental in the midst. The second side continues with the energetic German band "Rebellenblut" and the French "Legitime Defonce." The magazine and record cover show a sense of warped graphic humor that may have you ordering from the healthy hardcore catalog that Panx maintains. (EP/PMZ)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "The Public Doesn't Exist" ($4 (?) from Dog Tapes, PO Box 9609, Seattle, WA 98109): This cool comp of Seattle artists makes the town sound like college radio heaven: from Craig Joyce's strange tape manipulations to Sue Ann's Souxie-gets-philosophical style to Evan Schoenfeld's wonderfully lightweight "Peace, Love and Eno," it's a diverse sample and all rather good. A funky xerox booklet is included, but there is a catch: most of it was recorded way back in 1982. A sequel is definitely in order. (T/KF)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Reeling Time in the Patch Factory" (Xkurzhen Sound, State House, PO Box 207, Boston, MA 02133) From the Boston based Xkurzhen Sound cassette label comes this compilation of sound constructions and rhythm experimentation. Beginning insidiously with the murky guitar of Fields, the pieces, from band/artists like Tinitus, Gench, Head Squalor, Arms Akimbo, Beatniks from Mars, Thomas Dimuzio or Cęphalic Index, run the boundaries of experimentation from electronic and sampled sound to improvised live percussion, creating a range of atmospheres from deep underground parking garage to frightful jungle dance, with lots of chopped up, warped, and even pretty sounds in between. Including a catalog of available tapes and photocopied pages with written cut ups and odd art, this is a good exposition of this label's offerings. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Smiles, Vibes, and Harmony: A Tribute To Brian Wilson" ($9.98 from Venus Records & Music Distribution, Inc., 596 Broadway Rm 1216, New York, NY 10012): This "loving tribute" may be a little too sweet-toothed for fans of some of the bands featured: Das Damen's bland harmonies on "Johnny Carson" and Geffen artists Sonic Youth sound less than inspired. The cuts that succeed as good covers are ones that have been fooled with, lovingly or not, by veteran rockers with silly names: Peter Stampfel and the Bottle Caps ("Gonna Hustle You") and Billy Childish and the Headcoats ("409") succeed by distorting that squeaky clean material and making it their own. Some proceeds from the album go to NARAS's drug rehabilitation program Musicares, in honor of PMRC supporter Brian Wilson. A disappointment. (LP/KF)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Somewhere in the Skeleton" (Body Records, Stationsstraat 116, 2750 Beveren, Belgium): Industrial beat compilation from Belgium, the selections on this release are incredibly compatible, as to be from one group rather than 8. Most of the pieces are built on pulsing bass lines and strong beats, with strange percussion and found sounds interspersed amongst synth work and feedback tones. Few songs are found here, most of the pieces built of sequences and layered sections. Comparison to Front 242 could be made, but an even darker and more evil tone pervades many of these cuts, as with the distorted growling of Tilt!'s "Starve to Death," or S.D.F.'s angry "Go to Hell." With French, Japanese, German, Belgian, Dutch and Swedish bands, this is a good international cross section of that which is dark and sinister in technological sound. (LP/PMZ)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Songs for the Socially Retarded" ($3.00 from Thrashing Mad Ent., c/o David Wilentz, 29 Perry St., #1F, New York, NY 10014): 18 bands from around the US, plus one from Spain (a bonus play!). The music is an amalgam of hardcore and punk, ranging from sparsely raw basement thrash to a fuller almost metallic hard rock sound. What's nice about this release is that the people who've produced it seem to genuinely want to encourage communication—they print each band's contact information along with lyrics and make a point of emphasizing communication in their opener. (T/CS)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Sound Bites From The Counter Culture" (Atlantic, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10019): It was certainly a surprise to get this spoken-word collection from a major label. Check out the cast of characters: Hunter S. Thompson, Eugene mcCarthy, Bob Guccione Jr., Tim leary, Abbie Hoffman, Henry Rollins, Jello Biafra, Danny Sugerman and Jim Carroll. I particularly liked the rousing rants from Hoffman and Thompson, but there's not a loser in the bunch. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "The Sound of Chainsaw Cassettes: (CS Promotions, 11, Layton Road, Islington, London N1 0PX, UK): This tape is £1.45 in the UK, but who knows how much more to ship it here. Anyhow, it's a collection of industrial, ambient and abrasive music from groups like Chemical Plant, Guts, and Operation Mind-Control. Some of this is almost painful to listen to, extended slow-paced electronic improv; other bits are quick sharp noise assaults. Well-produced if far off the musical norm. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "The Talerama Comp"($3 from Frank Boscoe, things That Go Records, PO Box 208 CMU, Pittsburgh, PA 15213): A collection of live music from "the basement at Cato Street". Most of this stuff is on the harsh side of rock, with slopover into punk and experimental. Check out the wild guitar work of Meat Man Whistle Punching Sex Contest, the straight-up sounds of The Ofries, or the full sound of Lesser Apes. Not superslick, just enjoyable music. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "A Taste of Philadelphia, Volume Two" ($13 from Earwig Inc., PO Box 15921, Philadelphia, PA 19103): A fine two-cassette collection of new music from Philly, ranging from pop to rock to metal (but not punk or hardcore). There are some familiar names on here, including Dr. Bombay, Ashtray, and The Electric Love Muffins, as well as a lot of promising new talent. Among the latter I would single out Nova Express and especially the lovely pop of Daria as worth keeping an eye out for more from. But there's not a loser among the 27 tracks here, which is a lot more in both quality and quantity than most comp tapes can say. (2T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "They Lie, We Die" ($4 world, $3 N. America from 4981 Hwy 7 East, Unit 12 Box 211, Markham, Ontario L3R-1N1): Hardcore with political bent and poetry readings make up the selections on this compilation tape, the procedes of which go to the John Brown Anti Klan Committee. Cuts of news programs about the klan and pertinent speeches punctuate the selections from "Lethal Overdose," "Lesson of Vigilence," "Sound Pollution" and more. Good driving punk is played here, with bands from Germany, Australia, Canada, the UK, US and Findland. The poetry pieces, though stiff and unemotionally angular, are still interesting in content. For the cause of busting the klan, and at 3 or 4 bucks, this tape is worth checking out. (T/PMZ)

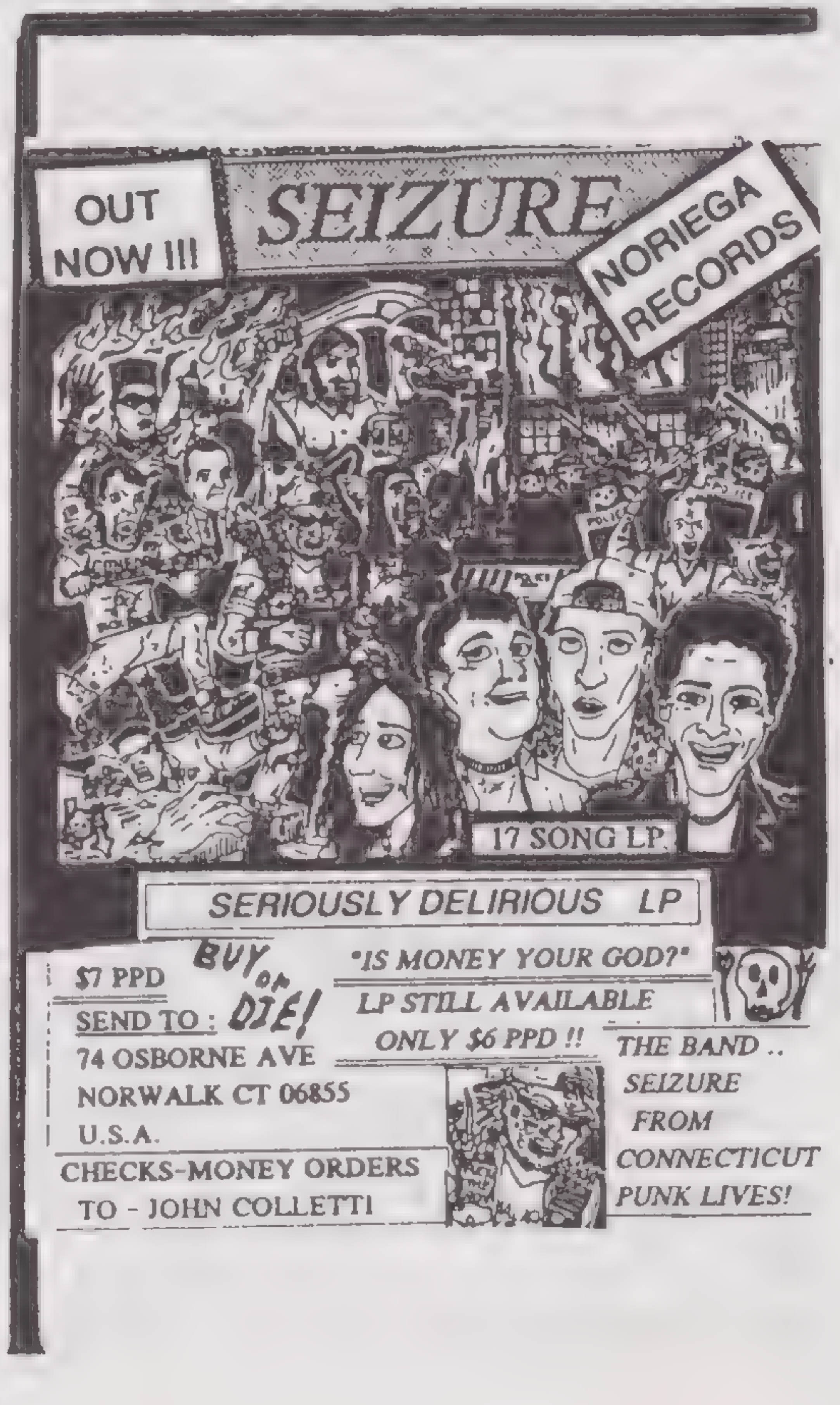
★★★★★

Various Artists, "Th Installation" ($4 from Ether Telegrams, 2108 15th Ave, Phenix City, ALA 36867): This compilation features Phenix City local bands and artists, and that's about the extent to which I can tell you about those represented on this tape. The insert contains a minimum of hand-written information, which doesn't happen to include credits. The selections are low-fidelity recordings of electronic and guitar experimentation, punk/hardcore with thumpy drums, a feedback and flute piece, a couple of folky acoustic songs with ill vocals, and a number of quick odd sounding fillers; only one instrumental guitar piece stood out to my interests. Hopefully future releases will be more informative, and will also improve on the sound quality. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Total Recess Grade - 5" ($7 from Mike Honeycutt, PO Box 240131, Memphis, TN 38124-0131): This 90 minute comp features international electronic and noise artists presenting a variety of alternate sound composition and construction techniques. The first side of this tape presents mostly synthetic music, using sequenced bass lines and beats with strange layers of sounds and cut up voices. The second side tends towards the truly odd sound, presenting sampled sounds and strange throbbing machine noises. The tape starts slowly with the least interesting, overlong sequenced works; mixing in shorter pieces like Srdenovic's "Big Janice" earlier, or crossing sample pieces with the synth pieces might heighten the initial interest on what is ultimately an interesting tape. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★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Various Artists, "Vague Atmosphere" ($6 from Blue Cube Music, 129 West Warren, South Bend, IN 46637): This spoken word tape comes with a crude chapbook containing the original pieces written for the tape; the balance of the tape is interpretations of poems by Ginsberg, Moore, Burn, and Elliot. K.C. Pocius is the futuristic vocalist for this "electric poetry;" accompanied faithfully by Brett Simpson's electric guitar. A memorable Prufrock! (T/pj)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "What Else Do You Do? (A compilation of Quiet Music)" (Shimmy-Disc, JAF Box 1187, New York, NY 10116): This, as the subtitle suggests, is a collection of some of the mellower material offered by the Shimmy-Disc crowd (including, of course, Bongwater, Daniel Johnston, et al) and a few others. Some of this is from existing LP's some is previously unreleased, and some, for us "vinyl-preferred" types, is from CD and cassette-only (well, not anymore) bonus tracks. Outstanding cuts include Pale Face's "Burn & Rob" (hilarious), Suzie Unger's "The Protection Song" (haunting), and David Keener's "Tip of the Iceberg" (holistic). Tuli Kupferberg's musical contribution and cover cartoon both stink, but don't let that stop you from checking this out. (LP/KS)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Where Do We Go From Here?" (Herald X, PO Box 2304, Manila, PHILIPPINES): A well-produced hardcore compilation tape featuring exclusively bands from the Philippines. There's everything here from sheer grunge to thrash to even a bit of oi, and it all comes with lyrics. Distorted Minds, Descant X, and Valley of Death stand out, although all the bands here do a great job. Reminds me of some of the international comps from BCT, but fine-tuned and better presented. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Young Person's Guide to Color" (Mystery Hearsay Cassettes, PO Box 240131, Memphis, TN 38124): This 1986 compilation features electronic pop songs and instrumentals from 4 bands- Lives of Angels, Modern Art, WeR7 and Mystery Plane- providing one song or more on each of the sides of this tape. Using repetetive electronic beats, synth and guitar, most of these songs do little for me, though there is little unpleasant or disturbing here. That perhaps is the problem, as the overall feeling is that of safe and well ordered music, with little sense of innovation or challenge. There are exceptions, as in Mystery Plane's "Fever," and some odd sounds and interesting ideas are found, but generally this is conventionally structured music with electronic instrumentation. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

VOLKSWHALE, "Assinine" ($2 from David Schall, PO Box 2143, Stow, OH 44224): Cheesy low-budget pop rock from deranged minds. They present a number of covers on this tape, but as they say, these are interpretations rather than duplicates—and in the case of some, for instance the Pink Floyd bit from "The Wall", the interpretation is anything but kind. Bubblegum music laced with strychnine. (T/MG)

★★★★★

VON NEUMANN'S CATASTROPHE, "The Unlikely Rotation of Toby" ($4 from Big Dragg, PO Box 25044, Wilmington, DE 19899): Far-reaching garage pop that has a playful attitude and great danceable instrumentation; little bits of everything from ska to polka sneak in when you're least expecting them. Picks include the lovely harmonic "Can You Picture That", the perky cover of "Light My Fire" and the old favorite "Green Eggs and Ham". You gotta love a band that credits one member with playing the flying fish. (T/MG)

★★★★★

WALDO THE DOG FACED BOY, "Gifts of Finest Wheat" (WIN Records, PO Box 26811, Los Angeles, CA 90026): When you see Sammy Davis Jr.'s eye poked by the spindle as this record plays, you know you're in for something wonderful. With the powerful yet sensitive voice of Mary Ellen Mason at the helm, Waldo the band plays spontaneous rock using an expanded acoustic setup including trombone, at times adding violin and sax, and now with a real drummer. Mixing melodious riffs and progressions with dissonance, the band plays both strong rocking tunes and gentle acoustic pieces, maintaining a sense of improvisation throughout. The lyrics include floating constructions of phrases and imagistic religious definitions, with wordless songs deftly interspersed. Presenting studio and live material, it's great to hear this band return after a two year hiatus with such sophisticated and solid music. (LP/PMZ)

★★★★★

WALKING SEEDS, "Bad Orb, Whirling Ball" (Shimmy-Disc, JAF Box 1187, New York, NY 10116): A dense undergrowth of guitars holds this band together as they bang out the tunes, apparently more concerned with setting up a lot of noise than with any imaginary standards of polish. Anyone foolish enough to stand in the way will likely get run down as this Liverpudlian quartet lashes the notes together and blurts them out as whole tunes at once. Hard and a bit on the downbeat side, but it ends with a cover of "He Said, She Said" which seems to lend an upbeat air to the whole. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

THE WALK-INS, "The Fifth Season" (PO Box 35234, Cleveland, OH 44135): Fine alternative rock carefully composed and presented. With a sound that draws on violin as well as standard guitar and rhythm, plus the outstanding vocals of Anne-Marie Kovach, the sound here is easy to like. Their lyrics tend to be very open, leading to thought instead of stifling it, and it's easy to get lost in their cool melodic sounds. I hope to hear more of this band in the future; this is an impressive debut. (T/MG)

★★★★★

WATCHING ALICE, "Demon Lover Girlfriend" (13801 S. Cedar #1, Westminster, CA 92683-3836): The music on this demo tape is nearly as schizoid as the title. A bit of metal, a bit of punk and a good helping of old-fashioned hard rock are muddled together, with rhythmic idiosyncrasies layered on top. Lots of changeups, good lead guitar work, and a set of lyrics designed to hypnotize or at least bemuse give the band a distinctive sound. The only question is whether anyone out there will accept it. It took a few listens, but I like the end result. (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE WEDDING PRESENT, "Bizarro" (RCA, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036): Despite the title, this is pretty straightforward melodic guitar rock, from an English-based group with a Ukranian guitarist. They orbit somewhere on the boundaries of pop, with thoughtful but not earthshaking lyrics and a lot of craft rather than passion in their playing. Maybe we'll hear more of this on the college stations. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

WHITE GLOVE TEST, "Leap" (Troy Music Services, PO Box 2103, Venice, CA 90294-2103): Led by the expressive voice of Ken Wait, WGT generates strong tunes of active clean rhythms, solid bass, and building guitar lines linked with subdued synth in a style that maintains a sense of melody and direction while building to high energy breaks. Highlights include "The Worshipping Boys," with its distant psychedelic guitar lines, or the almost Fall-like "Between the Oars." The acoustic "Lisa" falls outside the mold, holding out a pretty melody with violins and flute while Wait intones in a skewed but expressive voice. The only detraction is the way Wait's voice was recorded, which puts him in the dull distance compared to the band. Otherwise, subtle hard pop. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

WHO'S YOUR DADDY, "Big Love" b/w "Hi-Lo" (Moonriver Records, PO Box M-1508, Hoboken, NJ 07030): The Band mixes a light pop appeal crossed with a gritty rock feel. I kept conjuring up duel images: of 50's/early 60's rockers like Ritchie Valens and Buddy Holly, and of more contemporary rockers like John Hiatt, John Fogerty, those backyard boys the BoDeans and even a bit (if you can still remember them) of Rank 'n' File. (45/CS)

★★★★★

WIG, "Lying Next To You" ($7 from Nocturnal Records, PO Box 19550, Detroit, MI 48219): Hard brain-jarring music with slow potent lyrics; for a genre try industrial rap, or junkyard punk. Propelled by the bass and drums rhythm section and Preston Cleveland's maddened vocals, Wig shambles desperately around the room, looking for a way to ease the pain, or at least spread it around. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

DAVID E. WILLIAMS, self-titled (1531 S. Broad St., Philadelphia, PA 19147): With each release, Williams' work continues to improve as his direction towards his vision becomes stronger and clearer. This new demo contains what I think of as "dark lounge music"—or "Vegas nightclub music from hell". Dreamy, dark, hauntingly weird...Williams and his songs come across like a wigged out cross between Grace Jones, Peter Murphy and Paul Anka. (T/CS)

★★★★★

CHRIS WIND, "Sampler" (RR#1, Sundridge, ONT, P0A 1Z0, CANADA): A collection of short and mainly instrumental pieces. Chris writes in an interesting style, with pieces ranging from jazzy to something I would call pop classical—bouncy instrumentals with a classic feeling to them. There are a few pieces with vocals, but they're more experimental than most "songs" you could hear on the radio. A short look at what sounds to be a fun body of work. (T/MG)

★★★★★

WONDERAMA, "Everyday Should Be My Birthday" b/w "Cream Puff War" (Mark Alhadeff, 2830 Ocean Pky #23C, Brooklyn, NY 11235): Gutsy rock with dirty harmonica and a hyper beat, singing 'Everyday Should Be My Birthday.' The raw bluesy guitar plays through while Alhadeff describes how great this year's birthday should be. Why I need to know I'm unsure, but it's amusing to hear him anticipate his corn flake and eggs breakfast in bed while scratching his birthday suit. "Cream Puff War" starts with a bigger sound and more energy, the vocals at the edge, with a sick guitar/noise break in between. Tight band work keeps the threat of chaos under control, up to the backward vocals that end this very odd single. (45/PMZ)

★★★★★

WRECK, "Soul Train" (Wax Trax Records, 1659 N. Damen Ave., Chicago. IL 60647): A tasty slab of post-punk all-out killer noise that maintains a high energy level throughout. Some of the guitar feedback and dissonance puts me in the mind of the Flaming Lips, but this is more straightforward and less psychedelic. The band seems to take a mission of making breathtaking music very seriously, and on numbers like "Ribs and Balls" and "To The Bridge" they pull out all the stops. Music that takes no prisoners. (T/MG)

★★★★★

WUNNDERMANN, "Everybodys Ethnic" ($10 from Ubik Sound, 516 Abeyta St., Santa Fe, NM 87501): Dwight Loop and Arnold Bodmer team up here to produce an hour of so of fast-paced sunthesizer/sampler madness. Some of the pieces here seem to be little more than quick dips into particular audio pools. Others swim around for a long while, building up fantastic patterns of multi-layered music. Overall the pace is fast, the cuts clean, the sound something like modern jazz on dangerous uppers. (T/MG)

★★★★★

WUWA, "Title of Tape (Little Plastic Box #5)" ($5 from Matthew Burnett, 74 Spencer #3, San Francisco, CA 94103): Demonstrating what's possible in the one man studio, WUWA (Matthew Burnett) works with electronic instrumentation, drum machines, samplers and reed instruments, combined with samples and overdubbed recordings. What is presented is an eclectic set of swiftly moving, syncopated music tending towards the percussive, with strangely grandiose orchestral expositions, a controlled chaotic song with oddly low key vocals, and even a quirky squawk experiment in the Zorn bird call vein. The results are a well presented, integrated work that shows both a sense of humor and political concern, which includes amusing aural instructions to flip the tape, all recorded with the cleanest of techniques. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

XENTRIX, "Ghostbusters" (Roadracer, 225 Lafayette St. #709, New York, NY 10012): This thrash EP starts off with a cover of the "Ghostbusters" theme song which begins hard and heavy only to later self-destruct in an orgy of increased-tempo playing. Following it as "Nobody's Perfect" and "Interrogate", a pair of more usual thrash rockers, executed to solid lead vocals and plenty of fast guitars. A British import that proves the sun has not quite set on the Empire yet. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

YO LA TENGO, "Fakebook" (Bar None, PO Box 1704, Hoboken, NJ 07030): "Fakebook" is made up of obscure and unremembered semi-cheesey pop songs that have been brushed off and scrubbed up to shine brightly under Yo La Tengo's skillful loving care. At times the music is dreamy and almost surreal (you can imagine David Lynch choosing some of these as a soundtrack at some point down the line); other times you're treated to rocking ditties that snap the mood and create a lively atmosphere. This band reminds me of The Kinks when they were first starting out. Not in style at all—they're worlds apart that way. I'm talking more about approach, in the way they're not afraid to be an intelligent pop band with a sly nod to humor and a whirl towards rock and roll. (CD/CS)

★★★★★

THE YOUNG GODS, "Longue Route" (Wax Trax Records, 1659 N. Damen Ave., Chicago, IL 60647): This French group is not one of the more impressive in the Wax Trax stable. They combine orchestral sampling with hard rock guitar and drums, and vocals that run from hyper to vanishingly self-effacing. There's little sense of development, though, and their songs just sort of peter out. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

JASON YUK, "Feel Good Stories" ($3.00 from Easy, 5012 Cedar Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19143) This one sided tape features difficult to distinguish conversations over muddy recordings of garage core music and the like, creating a mess that requires real effort to follow. As neither the music or the conversations is easily understandable you're left either frustrated or distracted; it's kind of like sitting next to a table of talkers at a bar and catching bits and pieces of their conversation. If you lack beer drinking, sex seeking friends then you might enjoy this vicarious group contact; but that seems kind of pathetic to me. (T/PMZ)

★★★★★

HARALD SACK ZIEGLER, "Die Geheimnisse Des Kochkessels" (Eupener Str. 42, D-5000 Köln 1, WEST GERMANY): Experimental synthetic pieces that take an idea and worry it to death like a cat worries a mouse. Ziegler builds up complex rhythms and patterns which repeat many times before any song come to an end. Synths play the strongest role here, but this is much closer to industrial than to New Age. (T/MG)

★★★★★

ZZAJ ART, "Volume Two" (Dick Metcalf, HHC 19th Supcom, PO Box 2879, APO San Francisco, CA 96218): Experimental, avant-gardish electronic wanderings; it's as if there were performed and created by Robin Williams' unearthly alter ego Mork. Like an antenna Zzaj Art beams in on just about anything and translates it into the music to create a fusion burst of music and voice. (T/CS)

★★★★★

4ZZZ (PO Box 509, Toowong, Qld, 4066, AUSTRALIA) is one of the few radio stations in Australia that plays exclusively alternative and independent music, and they report that they are starved for overseas alternative music. I'm sure they would be happy to play most anything you cared to send.

•Bonfire In The Boneyard (Marlon Michaels, PO Box 6904, Grand Rapids, MI 49516), a tape-syndicated radio show, is gearing up for another series of programs and looking for interesting new bands to review, interview and feature.

•C.O.R. FM (Kenny Moran, 1-413 Sherbrook, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3B 2W7, CANADA) is a new radio co-op that broadcasts at 95.5 FM and is looking for new music. Kenny is particularly interested in blues recordings.

•DAH JILT (PO Box 87128, Atlanta, GA 30037) and its editor Terrance Brannon are switching from a magazine format to a cassette format with accompanying booklet. They're real interested in submissions of music inspired by visual art and vice versa.

•**Earthly Delights** (PO Box 1QG, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne, NE99 1QG, ENGLAND) sells a variety of strange and mystical music, particularly recordings by Nocturnal Emissions. Perhaps an IRC or two for their catalog.

•**Hypertonia World Enterprises** (Jan R. Bruun, PO Box 4307, N-5028 Bergen, NORWAY) is looking for versions of songs written by or about Charles Manson for a compilation tape, planned to be released in August 1991.

•**Les Fleurs du Mal** (Nicola Catalano, Via Marconi, 92 (parco Angelica), 80046 S. Girogio A Cremano (NA), ITALY) is a radio program which deals with "unconventional music", from electronic works to those influenced by the Situationists to post-industrial noise. Nicola is also involved with various other related projects, including an annual festival and an audio magazine.

•**Mandolin Bros.** (629 Forest Ave., Staten Island, NY 10310-2576) are specialists in sales of "fine fretted instruments", from acoustic guitars to banjos to mandolins. Lots of custom-made and collectors items here, but the emphasis is on good sound. Try a couple bucks for a catalog.

•**The Midnight Streets** (118 E. Goodheart Ave., Lake Mary, FL 32746) is a forthcoming "audio sculpture" compilation cassette seeking submissions that are "bizarre, surreal, erotic, frightening, morbid, punk or psychotic".

•**Robert Ovetz** (3907 Willbert, Austin, TX 78751) is doing a show devoted to anti-folk and political music at the U of Austin radio station, and would love demo tapes from anyone in that general arena.

•**Quicksilver Fantasies** (PO Box 1660, Post Falls, ID 83854) sell folk, taditional and New Age music as well as stfnal art and oddities like fractal postcards. For a copy of their catalog send about a buck.

•**Stanton Park Records** (PO Box 58, Newtonville, MA 02160) has a new mail-order catalog out, including some material released by other labels. They're Boston-centered but not exclusively so. •**T.M.F.H.!** (Poste Restante, 31000 Toulouse, FRANCE) is collecting tracks for a compilation tape. They specified all original, but that's the only restriction on their flyer.

•**Tranquil Technology Music** (PO Box 20463, Oakland, CA 94620) will send you a catalog for an SASE.

•**WBRS** (Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham, MA 02254-9110) is the listener-supported alternative radio station at Brandeis. They sent me their program guide, which includes among other things a listing of hundreds of live shows in their archives.

•**WHAT NOW?** (Contact Alan Wright, 23 Nelson St, #3, Kingston, ONT, K7L 3W6, CANADA) is putting together a compilation tape of garage/punk/hardcore and welcomes submissions.

•**The WHRB Program Guide** (45 Quincy St., Cambridge, MA 02138) comes from a Harvard radio station which does such things as broadcasting 154 solid hours of Haydn. This makes their guides a useful reference checklist of recorded music on particular composers. You can get on their mailing list for a donation, I believe.

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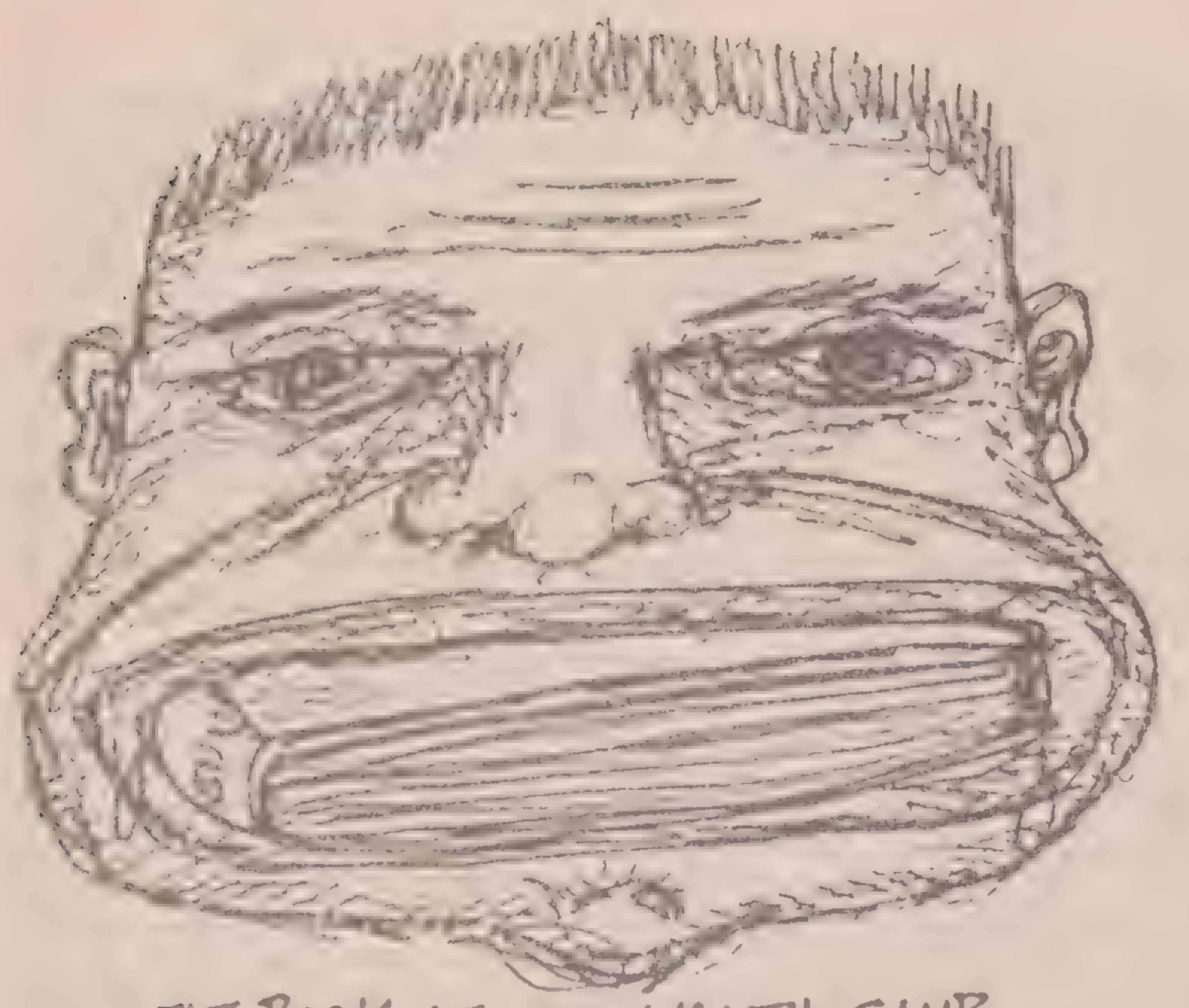

THE BOOK OF THE MOUTH CLUB

As always, I am looking for qualified reviewers for a stack of the Lonely Planet low-budget travel guides. Up for grabs are:

TONGA
SAMOA
TREKKING IN SPAIN
MALDIVES
WEST ASIA ON A SHOESTRING (roughly Turkey to India)
CHILE & EASTER ISLAND
FIJI

★★★★★

T.M. Anthony, **THE WAY OUT** ($5.95 from 811 Briercliff Dr., Orlando, FL 32806): This book is essentially an updating and popularization of the ideas contained in Edward Bellamy's classic **LOOKING BACKWARDS** and **EQUALITY**. (It includes partial concordances to both those books). Basically, the idea is threefold: (1) phase out money (2) substitute a credit system (which would prevent investment and interest) and (3) make every citizen an employee/shareholder of the government. We would all work from age 21 to age 45, and enjoy the products of society, distributed evenly, the rest of the time.

It's an intriguing vision, and of course one which has been proposed before. The idea of equality is especially attractive to those who are not at the top of the heap; I suspect those who already are will for the most part not be swayed by Anthony's arguments for economic equality. There are a few other facets of the plan which trouble me. One is that it does not seem to promote sustainability, almost completely dismissing limits in resources to exploit and places to put the garbage, More deeply, it does not address at all the problem of how to divide goods which will still not be in abundance. Even granted that a fair system would produce more with less hassle, won't there be some things—even if only the fastest supercomputers—for which demand will outstrip supply? What then?

Those caveats aside, **THE WAY OUT** is a clear explanation of an alternative way to build a just society. And it does propose a plan for getting from here to there, which is more than most utopian books do. (141 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Associations of the Light Morning, **SEASON OF CHANGES: WAYS OF RESPONSE** ($7.45 from Douglas Todd, 9077 Sugar Run Rd. NE, Copper Hill, VA 24079): This book is the prequel to **WAX STATUES, COTTON CANDY AND THE SECOND COMING** [see FF35]. You will recall that the latter book tells the story of the Associations of the Light Morning, a group which founded an intentional community after a series of psychic readings indicated that that was the thing to do. Well, this book is the readings themselves, together with some commentary.

The first section, "The Changes", tells the story of the major predictions made by the unidentified intelligences giving the information. These are rather apocalyptic in spots, predicting food shortages, pole shifts, and the general demise of civilization as we know it. But the sources don't dwell only on the problems; they also discuss the nature of reality, the shifting appearance of time, the potential of each self to be psychic, and the correspondence between inward growth and the outward world. Much of this seems to be standard New Age stuff, but more intricately presented than usual.

The second section, "The Response", consists of guidance for the people receiving the readings. Living with nature and building communities are the starting points, and perhaps the closest to consensus reality. From there, they move on to the power of prayer, meditation and dreamwork, and finally to what must be done to prepare the way for the return of the Christ consciousness.

What to make of this book? Well, whatever the merits of the readings in the light of the more than fifteen years since they were received, their effect on one group of people is undeniable. And somehow by drawing on this material they've been able to build a successful community in the face of adversity. That demands some respect. The skeptic can blame it all on the unconscious, but wherever the advice came from, it seems to have worked. Their path is not, I think, my path, but it's one which I can read sympathetically and ponder profitably. (269 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Erje Ayden, **SADNESS AT LEAVING**, (Semiotext(e) Foreign Agents Series, 522 Philosophy Hall, Columbia University, New York, NY 10027): The foreword of this novel (written by the man to whom the novel was dedicated) calls it a "beautiful novel." Subtitled an "espionage romance," I found these to be contradictory descriptions. But it *is* a beautiful novel, uncommon in its genre. Set primarily in New York City during the early 60's, Sadness is the story of Carl Halman, a high-ranking communist spy whose latest assignment is to "sleep" in the States (assume an American identity and life) while awaiting further instructions from "home." He accomplishes this swiftly and expertly and in no time establishes himself as a regular American guy in the publishing world of NYC during the beatnik days. But the novel is more than just an inside look at the life of an *agent provocateur*, and it's about more than its dated storyline. We are no more living in the cold war, but we are grappling with many of the same issues that those in the novel are. Ayden somehow packs everything into a small, rapid-fire story: the ideals of pure socialism, love, sex, need, dependency, human nature, literature, a sense of "marginalism," and the value of a single human life. It takes a long time for Halman to hear from the "home office," and in the interim he finds himself comfortably ensconced within the confines of New York City. He falls in love, develops a passion for the NY Knicks, marries, has a child, makes good friends. But if the original urgency of his mission fades a bit as the years proceed, he never loses sight of his goal, his values, and the complete conviction that he is working for the good guys. Ironically, his worldview is sharpened by love, but blurred by the inevitable bureaucracy of his cause. He remains true to pure socialism, but more importantly, he remains true to himself. This is the danger of being a spy and the basis of conflict in any true believer of a collective cause, such as Communism. Ayden is not an American, yet writes 60's American lingo with grace and pleasure. You know that he loves the expressions from that era: "dig," "pad," "cat." But he never falls into the trap of triteness, making the language or the spy story something you might witness in a dated movie. He even refers to those grade-B spy flicks with humor. The story itself might be dated, but the philosophy of its author is not. The ideas and morals espoused are sadly and ironically the same ones we are (or should be) coping with today. Who do we remain loyal to? Those we love? Those we emulate? Ourselves and no one else? What *is* the "right cause?" Ayden has his hero refer to Camus' **The Stranger** (which **Sadness at Leaving** reminds me of)—this may or may not be a modest reference to his own contribution to literature: "You almost feel...that anyone could have written it. Suddenly, it doesn't have to be 'great' to be Great." Very true. Very recommended. (CG)

★★★★★

Alan Betrock, **UNSEEN AMERICA: THE GREATEST CULT EXPLOITATION MAGAZINES 1950-1966** ($13.45 from Shake Books, 449 12th St. #2B, Brooklyn, NY 11215): Betrock is an authority of magazine with names like *CONFIDENTIAL* or PEEP SHOW, and this trade paperback is his best roundup on the subject yet. He leads off with some words on the history and rise of cult magazines, accurately tracing their origins and their postwar peak. Then comes the meat of the book: hundreds of descriptions and cover photos. He covers eight major categories here: Scandal magazines, Crime & Detective magazines, Pin-up magazines, Strange Hollywood and One-Shot Personality magazines, Black Magazines, Romance & Confession magazines, General Exploitation magazines and then just strange and weird category breakers like WAR CRIMINALS. A nice reference guide which might get you started on a new collection of classic mags. (112 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Francine Boucher & André Binette, **LIVING WELL WITH STRESS** (Editions de Mortagne, 250 Industrial Boulevard, Boucherville, QUE, J4B 2X4, CANADA): An overview of stress and stress management techniques prepared by the Psychological Guidance and Consultation Service of the University of Montreal. It starts off with some notes on the history of stress research and the physiological definition of stress. Then it takes you through some exercises to determine the level of stress in your life and help identify the specific stressors (causes of stress) involved. The third part of the book deals with the broad spectrum of ways to control stress, both by changing yourself and changing your environment. Finally, five important strategies (time management, physical exercise, diet, relaxation and emotional control) are discussed in depth. It all winds up with a bibliography of works in both French and English.

All in all, this is a straightforward and attractive guide. It's written on a level which is neither too technical to follow or so simple as to be offensive. And it takes a no-nonsense approach to stress control, giving out simple ideas and instructions so that, for example, you can learn to relax and meditate without going through the bother or expense of TM classes. The people who need this book the most, the chronically overstressed type A personalities, will probably never make the time to read it and apply it. But those who are only teetering on the edge may well find this work to be a good way to pull back a little. (189 pp. tpb)

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★★★★★

Jon Brecka (ed.), **BASEBALL CARDS: QUESTIONS & ANSWERS** ($5.95 [plus s&h?] from Krause Publications 700 E. State St., Iola, WI 54990): Some idea of the popularity of collecting baseball cards as a hobby and an investment may be gained by noting that one chapter in this reference is "Reprints, Collectors' Issues & Counterfeits". But the instances of counterfeiting reported there (with some pictures) are only a small part of the overview of this hobby, directed at those just starting out. In about 500 Q&A sections, the people from **SPORTS COLLECTORS DIGEST** go over the history of baseball cards, rating and taking care of them, identifying rate cards, what makes them worth money, buying and selling, and more. There are even sections on collecting autographs and other non-card ephemera. I was frequently amused by the light style here, and even though I haven't collected any cards since about 1970, I still found this interesting going. An ideal reference for the person interested in joining this rapidly-expanding hobby. (256 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Tony Darwin, **THE CITEBOOK** ($16.95 plus $2.5 s&h from Starlite General Inc., PO Box 20967, St. Petersburg, FL 33742): This is a book with a very narrowly targeted audience: the "jailhouse lawyer" working on an appeal to get back out of prison. After a quick introduction to legal reference books (which could have used slightly better proofreading), it gets into the meat of the book: complete citations for about 1200 Federal court cases. Arranged by subject, from "Access to Courts and Library" to "Witnesses", these cases are generally ones which turned out favorable to the individual rather than the government. The result is a starting point for anyone pursuing allegations that their rights were violated, a selection of precedents for the argument. Also included are a glossary of legal Latin, addresses and phone numbers for parts of the Federal judicial system, and a selection of epigrams for those seeking justice to work from. This won't replace a law library or knowing how to do legal research (nor will it teach you to do such research, though it does have a few general hints) but it will help you use your time in the law library more effectively. (177 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

J.G. Eccarius, **WE SHOULD HAVE KILLED THE KING** ($5 from III Publishing, PO Box 620362, San Diego, CA 92162): The author of **THE LAST DAYS OF CHRIST THE VAMPIRE** is back with another novel that is even more eccentric than the first. It concerns the life and times of Jack Straw, anarcho-communist, para-legal, bohemian and eventually elder. The book jumps around from a constrained childhood to an anarchist future fantasy which starts out with a hopeful enclave and ends with a sunburned dead world (thanks to CFCs). Along the way Eccarius casts his light on a few features of the modern political scene, from the WPPSS debacle to Autonomen fighting in the streets in Germany. His characterization of the RCP is particularly cutting. All in all, an interesting, chewy, *different* book. (92 pp. pb)

★★★★★

George W. Fisk, **A NEW SENSE OF DESTINY** ($14.95 from Cosmic Concepts Press, Dept. B, 2531 Dover Ln., St. Joseph, MI 49085): Dr. Fisk strikes me as someone who has mistaken his own reality-tunnel for Objective Reality, and now cannot find his way out. Basically, he's convinced that he has found a "lost language" of symbols, linking the four evangelists and their traditional emblems (the man, lion, ox and eagle) with astrological and alchemical knowledge. If we all recover this knowledge, he claims, we would have a sense of destiny again, similar to the one shared by everyone in the middle ages in Europe (he gives no source for this remarkable assertion, beyond his reading of the physical evidence of places like Chartres Cathedral). I don't doubt for a moment that he has found a way of looking at these symbols which makes perfect sense to him. But the mix of astrology and evangelism is pretty unconvincing to me, which is just a way of saying that I organize my perceptions of reality differently. No doubt my rejection of Christian thought, even given his careful sketch of which gospel goes with which personality type, would strike him as tragic. But conversely, his concerns strike me as an elaborate game. (126 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Robin Gee (ed.), **1990 NOVEL & SHORT STORY WRITER'S MARKET** ($21.95 from Writer's Digest Books, 1507 Dana Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45207): This is the standard reference source for fiction writers trying to figure out where to sell their stuff, and it just keeps getting better. It opens with a lengthy section on the art and craft of writing, which ranges from an interview with Margaret Atwood to advice on character development, writing horror, and finding an agent. There follows a section on "The Business of Fiction Writing", which contains all the rules on manuscript formatting and auctorial etiquette.

The meat of the book, of course, is the market listings. These give all the essential details: editor, type of material wanted, length, circulation, payment, rights, and so on. Each entry closes with a short quote from the editor to help give the prospective author an idea of what the market is really like. There are a couple of changes in organization this year. The comics publishers are gone (moved to the new **HUMOR AND CARTOON MARKETS**—see FF36) and all of the under-10,000 magazines have been grouped together in a "Literary and Small Circulation Magazines" section (which leads off the listings).

Scattered through the market listings are short interviews with people involved in publishing. A few miscellaneous categories, including agents and awards, round out the listings. Then there is extensive indexing and a glossary of publishing terms you ought to know. In sum, this is a solid reference book, essential to anyone serious about making a career of writing fiction—and with the effort they put into updating it, you should certainly consider getting the new edition even if you already have an older copy. (612 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Thomas Geller (ed.), **BISEXUALITY: A READER AND SOURCEBOOK** ($12.45 from Times Change Press c/o Publishers Services, PO Box 2510, Novato, CA 94948): This is the first book on bisexuality edited and assembled by a bisexual, which makes it more sympathetic than the few other works in the area I've seen. Thomas Geller has selected well for his pages, starting out with some interviews that set the stage for the realization that bisexuals are just people who do things a bit differently, and then moving on into various views on the subject. "Just because I'm bisexual don't assume I'm a slag!" (reprinted from a British paper, where "slag" means roughly what "swinger" does here) makes a forceful point about people's mistaken assumptions. Bill Himelhoch's "The Bisexual Potential" tries to awaken the possibility that sexuality is a scale rather than a black and white state, an idea that several other essays here reinforce, notably Amanda Udis-Kessler's excellent constructionist piece "Bisexuality in an Essentialist World".

After the essays come a selection of resources. Perhaps of most interest to FF readers will be the directory of Periodicals on Bisexuality, including a few that could legitimately be called zines. There is also an extensive bibliography and a listing of special interest and support groups. And as with other books from Times Change, the design (this time courtesy of Freddie Baer) and production are as excellent as the text. (184 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Kirpal Gordon, **DEAR EMPIRE STATE BUILDING** ($10.95 from Heaven Bone Press, PO Box 486, Chester, NY 10918): Thirteen short stories "of Sex and Apocalypse in New York". They range all over the map, from a two-page letter written by Holden Caulfield to JD Salinger to the longish "Philosophy, Insanity and the Triumph of the Will" which explores strained relations between a bunch of marginal lives. Gordon writes largely of people having spiritual crises, often with sexual overtones, and the denouements are sudden and unexpected. And yes, one story here is a letter to the Empire State Building. An enjoyable collection, very precisely written, and with threads of meaning to be unraveled. (102 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Bob Grumman, **OF MANYWHERE-AT-ONCE** ($10 from Runaway Spoon Press, PO Box 3621, Port Charlotte, FL 33949): From our own esteemed Experioddica Consultant comes this book about a single sonnet. Actually, that's too simple a summary. While the central anchor for the book is a five-year revision and honing of one sonnet, this serves as a hook to hand all manner of other things on, notably Bob's own taxonomy of experimental literary work, his homage to influential poets of recent memory, and his ideas on reading and understanding poetry. I personally am probably one of the people Bob writes about early on:

"...there must be those who will never be able to derive Supreme Pleasure from poetry, no matter how brilliantly I or anyone else writes about it. I hope, however, that I manage with this book to help at least a few readers improve their enjoyment of poetry—and to persuade those who remain immune to it that there is *something* to it, even if it will never be central to *their* lives."

I'd say he's succeeded; not only do I have a better idea that there is something to poetic work, but Bob goes a long way towards explaining what that something is, and how to tease it out of a poem. (By the way, this is probably one of my difficulties; apparently appreciating poetry requires more work than I habitually put into it). Along the way, he introduces readers to the works of Stevens, Roethke, Pound and Yeats. There is also a recounting of his adventures in the small press which have led to such fame as working for FF and running his own press. And there is a coherent and organized explanation of the critical vocabulary which he uses here and elsewhere.

I quite enjoyed this book, which with my feelings about poetry was a feat indeed. I recommend it to anyone who wants to either acquire or deepen an appreciation of the field, and it's a necessary reference for anyone doing critical work on the cutting edge. (214 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

L.J. Harwood, **FAIR PLAY** ($8.45 from Acadia Publishing Co., PO Box 170, Bar Harbor, ME 04609): A new book for the young adult crowd. Bobby, the protagonist, is a ten-year-old with problems; he's the middle kid in the family, too old for kid stuff and too young to be trusted. He starts acting up on a trip out to the country for the fair, and ends up in a mess of trouble, ultimately running away. However, he then gets lucky, meets some new friends, and learns a bit about life. I found it all rather too pat, but then, I'm about three times the age of the intended audience. Twenty years ago I would have gobbled this up and never realized I was being taught moral lessons along with the story. Harwood is a good writer, not condescending to his young readers, and parents looking for good books could do worse than to check out Acadia's juvenile line. (166 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Lesllie Woolf Hedley, **PROBLEMS IN AMERICAN CULTURE** ($10.95 from Exile Press, 241 S. Temelec Cir,, Sonoma, CA 95476): Whatever else you say about conservatives, for the most part they write much better and more stylish polemics than liberals do. This book is a compilation of 18 such, and while the liberal reader will squirm uncomfortably, there are some gems here. Werner Dannhauser's "Allan Bloom and the Critics" stands out as a debunking of liberal answers to **THE CLOSING OF THE AMERICAN MIND**, and David Castleman's essay on poetry, while essentially nothing more than a lament for the good old days, is delightfully crafted. Others tread on more dangerous ground as they examine topics like politics, feminism and racism. I think we have a duty to confront opinions we disagree with; most FF readers will find a good selection to disagree with here. (148 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Elbert Hubbard, **AN AMERICAN BIBLE** ($17.35 from De Young Press, PO Box 7252, Spencer, IA 51301-7252): A reprint edition of a classic collection of American freethought. Elbert Hubbard tried to isolate and identify the strains of thought that made America great and collect them between one set of covers. The result is a series of quotations from Ben Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, Thomas Paine, Abe Lincoln, Walt Whitman, Robert Ingersoll, and Ralph Waldo Emerson. That's about half the book, the other half being Hubbard himself issuing such pronouncements as "The selfish wish to govern is often mistaken for a holy zeal in the cause of humanity". An embarassingly adulatory introduction by Alice Hubbard completes the package.

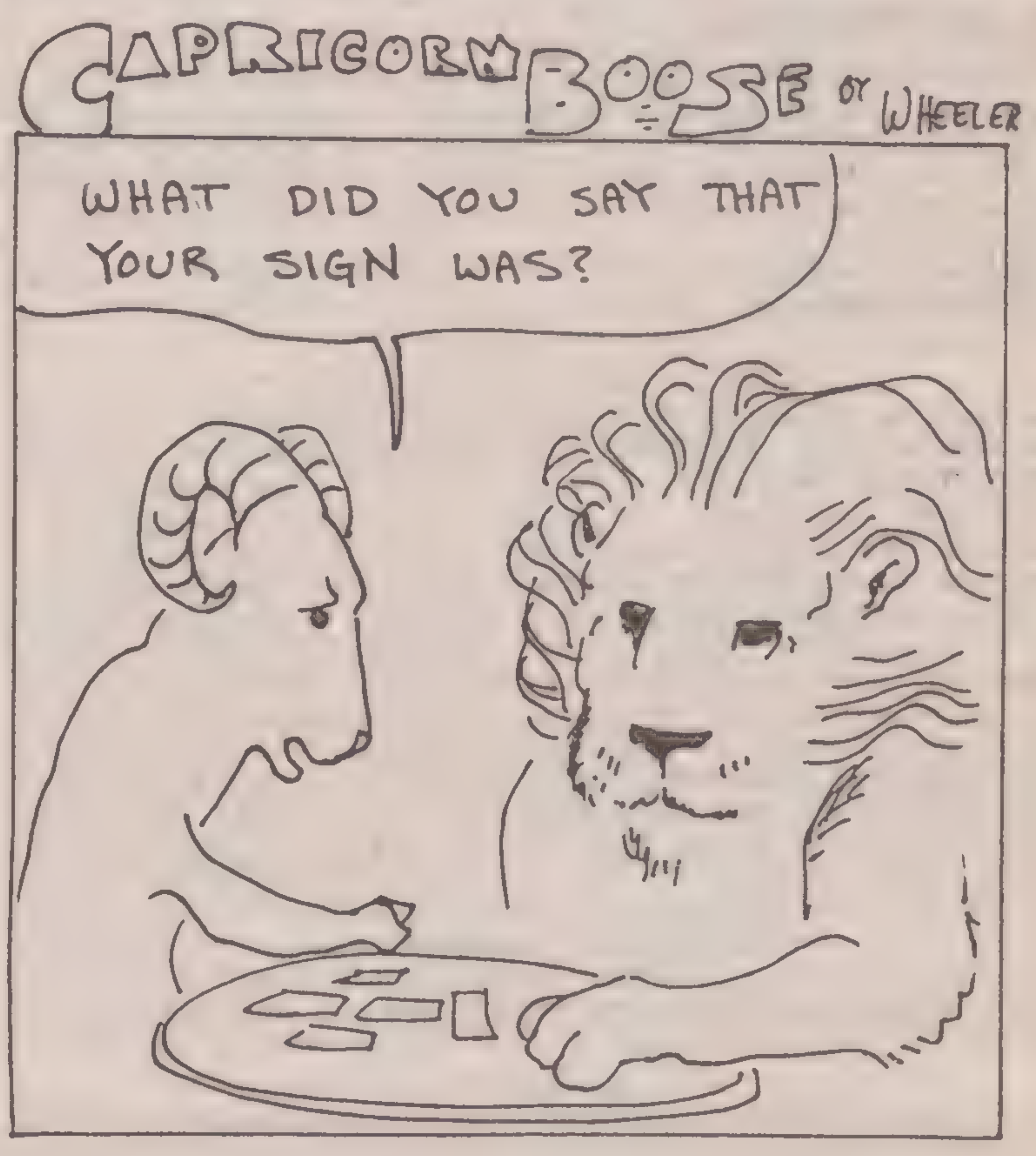
Much of this makes for good reading, but it has some infuriating aspects. First, the text is dressed with a superfluity of typographical dingbats, which may have been fine in the 1912 edition but are aggravating today. Second, Hubbard gives no attributions—I recognize, for example, Franklin's **AUTOBIOGRAPHY** and Jefferson's work on the Declaration of Independence, but it would be nice to know where the rest of this stuff comes from. Finally, the binding on my copy has severe problems, making it difficult to read the columns closest to the center of the book. (256 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Angus J. Huck, **IMMORAL EARNINGS** ($9.50 from Dunscaith Publishing Ltd., 28 W. Lodge Ave., London W3 9SF, ENGLAND): Meet Cyril Bloom: pimp, property speculator, violent exploiter of young boys. Not precisely the sort of person you would want around the house. Nor would you want his associates: a couple of bruisers, prostitutes hopelessly lost in a ritualized life of endless empty quickies, gay hustlers. In fact, reading this book is no picnic either. Angus Huck has employed his very real storytelling talent to give us a picture of a sector of society not generally acknowledged, one where people are hurt and killed for no particular reason except to demonstrate another's power. If there's a lesson here at all, it's that justice simply does no always prevail. The Cyril Blooms of this world sometimes get away with it. Fascinating in the same manner that picking scabs is. (124 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Dietmar Kamper & Christoph Wulf (eds.), **LOOKING BACK ON THE END OF THE WORLD** ($6 from Autonomedia, 522 Philosophy Hall, New York, NY 10027): I guess I've been out of the academic racket too long when books like this cease to make sense to me. The result of a symposium, this book addresses the question of what happens when the concept ot "the world", as an instrument of rationalization and planning, begins to crumble. However, the contributors (Baudrillard is the best-known) are so steeped in the European intellectual tradition of obfuscation, designed to baffle one's ideological opponents, as to make their meaning pretty well opaque to one


CAPRICORN BOOSE by WHEELER
WHAT DID YOU SAY THAT YOUR SIGN WAS?

not already immersed in the literature of modern grand theory and postmodernism. Take this sentence, picked entirely at random: "If one then considers the explosion of pedagogical professions, the members of which not only accompany one through one's pre-school and school-life but will still be found in clubs, hospitals, at holiday resorts, at one's place of work, in old people's homes and, last but not least, beside one's deathbed to ease the transition from this life to the next, it is clear that this type of pedagogical care at all stages of life must, of necessity, turn adults into children even on the surface." Now imagine a whole book like that. (I *think* that says "We learn from other people throughout our lives. Children learn from other people. Therefore we are children throughout our lives"—a restatement which is not only simpler but serves to point up the logical fallacy involved in the original sentence). (120 pp. pb)

★★★★★

K.M. Koppana, **SNAKEFAT AND KNOTTED THREADS** ($10 from Starlight, Pl 452, 00101 Helsinki, FINLAND): "A short introduction to Traditional Finnish Magic", this one is based on hints in the Kalevala as well as surviving folklore traditions. It is all quite straightforward, with discussion of the character of the Finnish shaman (*tietäjä*), the magical tools used, cures for various maladies and injuries, herbal cures, and bits of the sagas. A sourcebook for pagans interested in what we know about one particular authentic faith, from passed-down knowledge as well as conjecture. (87 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

LIVER & LIGHTS No. 9: THE BILLYMAN (£15/$25; add £3 for surface post or £7 for airmail, and £5 is cheque is not drawn on an English bank, from 28 Greenwich High Road, London SE10 8LF, ENGLAND): This is the sort of edition which the small press is still able to put out and the mass marketers can never hope to equal. Subtitled "Being Some Recently Discovered Sonnets by W. Shakespeare Improved by the Billyman", the book is a marvel of careful packaging as well as an interesting read. It comes in a box; open this and you will find a selection of cloth flowers and plastic jewels. Beneath these is the book itself, roughly twenty looseleaf sheets of fine paper bound in boards. The sheets themselves are carefully letterpress printed and adorned with rubber stampings and other hand-coloured art.

The text itself is somewhat bizarre. The Billyman follows the career of a vagrant who has a vision of Shakespeare and gets astral permission to revise a few sonnets. This he does after the best tenets of modern poetry: intermingling lines, crossing out huge chunks, rewriting more colloquially, and generally having a grand old time with the bard's words. The result may be more of a curiosity than anything else, but it's a well-done one, and actually quite readable. (40 pp. hc unbound)

★★★★★

Kyle Maning, **BLOOD STORM** ($3.50 & $1.25 s&h from Leisure Books, Attn: Customer Service Dept., 276 5th Ave., New York, NY 10001): The latest of the Z-Comm mercenary adventure books from **FACTSHEET FIVE** reader Kyle Maning. As usual with his works, there is non-stop violence as the small band of mercenaries battles the bad guys (in this case Nazis and Libyans) to save the world. There are times when I wonder how seriously Maning takes these books, though. Times like this:

"Parabellums whined behind him like banshees as one of the hitters let fly a 9-mm fusilade. Proffit grabbed a flaming shishkabob skewer from a wheeled chart and pitched the long metal needle at the Arab shooter, The flaming skewer buried itself in his left eyeball, and the gunman crashed backward into a large potted cactus, then out through a plate-glass window, where he came to rest beside an old beggar who immediately began to go through his pockets."

Anyhow, if you like men's adventure series books, or groove on extended descriptions of weaponry, you should check out Maning's work. After all, you'll be supporting his fanzine habit. (280 pp. pb)

★★★★★

Stephen-Paul Martin, **OPEN FORM AND THE FEMININE IMAGINATION: THE POLITICS OF READING IN TWENTIETH-CENTURY INNOVATIVE WRITINGS** ($9.90 paper or $18.70 cloth from Maisonneuve Press, P. O. Box 2980, Washington, DC 20013): Stephen-Paul Martin does a commendable job with this book, writing a book of literary theory that is accessible to the general reader and still intelligent and insightful. The major idea behind the book is that innovative writings or experimental literature (such as visual poetry, language poetry and metafiction) require a type of attention and stance of reading that is very different from that required of more conservative texts. Martin discusses how "feminine" awareness (that which is not simply rigid and logical but which is open and intuitive) helps to nurture experimental texts into a kind of completeness, a final understanding by the reader. Martin also tries to show how this same kind of awareness can apply to everyday life and lead to social improvements, but that is not the main thrust of his book, which examines the differences between modernism and post-modernism and finally ends with close studies of six experimental texts. OPEN FORM is both broad and deep in its examination of its subject but without overextending itself, and it presents an easy and enjoyable introduction to innovative writing for those who have been too frightened to take the plunge. (225 pp. tpb) (Guest review by Geof Huth)

★★★★★

Misha, **RED SPIDER WHITE WEB** (£13.95 from Morrigan Publications, 26 St. Paul's Drive, Scotforth, Lancaster, Lancs., LA1 4SR, ENGLAND): Misha's anxiously-awaited first novel is out, and a wonderful one it is. Actually, "novel" may be the wrong word for this interconnected series of images. Perhaps "holographic story" would transmit the idea better; it's a work to be mined over and over, read in various sequences, pondered and perhaps ultimately understood.

The setting is the future, somewhere down the line when the world has turned largely to slok and the Japanese are gradually taking over America. But it's not a sharp-edged *Blade Runner* future. Rather it's a society where class gaps have increased to the point where there is the slick and boring Mickey-san on the one hand and the concrete-and-chain link fence Dogton on the other, with nothing in between. A colony of rogue artists inhabits the latter, living on the Bohemian fantasies of artists everywhere, loud music, designer drugs, outrageous fashion. Meanwhile the police dogs hover overhead, and in Mickey-san, a plasticized elite enjoys a plasticized existence while plotting the co-opting of the artists.

Into this stew throw Kumo, a strong young woman who produces holographic art. Add Motler, a crusty older artist who wants to do the right thing but doesn't know what that is. Try Tommy, the superhacker who can even kludge his way into the fantasies of the Mikans. Stir in writing that sings with gritty details, that keeps relentlessly extrapolating cultural madness upon technological fix until we can only recognize the grinning rictus of our own world gone out of control. Then sit back and try to figure it all out. Or don't, and just let Misha's steel-taut words sing to you, as they do in the short pieces we're privileged to print in **FACTSHEET FIVE**.

Yeah, so some people are going to say this is cyberpunk. Some people think coffee tastes like Postum too. Eventually they'll wake up and realize that this is some post-cyberpunk mutation, a new way of writing that leaves the net riders in the dust to join those who really care about transmitting alien experiences. Buy it. If you're fast, you can get a copy in the states from Ziesing Books (PO Box 76, Shingletown, CA 96088) for $30 plus shipping—$35 should cover the lot. (216 pp. hc)

★★★★★

NOVEL APPROACH ($6 from Seth Tisue, Plaster Cramp Press, PO Box 1083, Wheaton, IL 60189): A book that is the end result of a project initiated by Xexoxial Editions. They invited dozens of mail artists to send a page for a novel, which would then be composed by assembling all the pages. The texts, titles and graphics thus quickly mutate as you peruse this book, and there is of course no plot. Unfortunately I would have to say that this fails as a novel on an even deeper level: most of the contributors chose to send art rather than prose, treating it as just another mail art project. So there are a number of intriguing graphics here from a gallery of mail artists (John Held, Mike Miskowski, Malok, Harry Polkinhorn, Ruggero Maggi, John Bennett, and many, many more) but not much in the way of even semi-linear words. Still, treated as an exhibition catalog and an address list for the mailart world, it comes out OK. (108 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Rolando Perez, **THE ODYSSEY** ($10 (?) from Brook House Press, Mills Pond House, 660 Route 25A, PO Box 52, St. James, NY 11780): The back cover blurb calls this book "an exciting and unusual collection of fables rendered aphoristically in a progressive series of poetic images." Some of you will recall Michael Moorcock's THE CORNELIUS CHRONICLES, in which all of the really important action takes place offstage and is only occasionally alluded to. Well, Perez goes that one step better (or worse, depending on your point of view) by rendering the on-stage action into bursts of poetic language from the anonymous demigod narrator. Broken up into short chapters, 36 in the desert section and 31 in the arctic section, this is anything but a straightforward book. The unnamed narrator reports on thoughts and feelings and actions without ever telling us, for example, just what the Ssors did that was so heinous. (125 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Clifford Pickover, **COMPUTERS, PATTERN, CHAOS AND BEAUTY** ($29.95 from St. Martin's Press, 175 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10010): Subtitled "Graphics From an Unseen World", this is a well-illustrated tour through the world of computer graphics. Pickover discusses currently sexy topics like the Mandebrot Set and chaos theory as well as old friends such as Pascal's Triangle and various spiral functions. Throughout, the emphasis is on the eye's ability to see patterns in carefully-chosen representations of mathematical functions. For example, one section uses cartoon faces with parameters chosen by Gaussian noise to illustrate how familiar graphics can encompass large volumes of data into gestalts. Later on the enigmatic hailstone numbers are shown to have certain regularities only visible on large-scale plots of their behavior.

The book is written on several levels. Those with mathematical background will appreciate the discussion of the generating algorithms for various figures as well as the analyses of their sensitivities to varied parameters. Computer programmers and hobbyists can make good use of the pseudocode given to generate some of the more interesting figures. Other readers will love Pickover for his digressions into varied fields which have some links to his topic, from the sequences of bases in DNA to image-enhancement efforts on the shroud of Turin to the branching of a dandelion seed head. There's a lovely section of color images tipped in as well.

All in all, this is one of the best books I've seen to come out of mathematical computing, written for the many and with plenty of further references for the few who care to pursue things further. Pickover conveys well the spark that fuels his own interest in these complex forms, and there's a playful feeling to these explorations of mathematical and graphical space. (400 pp. hc)

★★★★★

Kim Stanley Robinson, **A SHORT, SHARP SHOCK** ($18 from Ziesing Books, PO Box 76, Shingletown, CA 96088): Robinson is known as a science fiction author but I hesitate to call this book SF. It's more in the line of modern myth, or perhaps an exploration of archetypes, and it has a lot more incident than plot. The basic idea is simple: a man, initially nameless (but later dubbed "Thel" by fellow travelers) finds himself stranded on a circular mountain range which runs clear around an otherwise all-ocean world. Along the way he meets enigmatic characters such as the people with trees growing from their shoulders or the sadistic spine kings. Images that you can suck into your dreams abound, and the writing is carefully crafted, but if you're looking for a standard SF story look elsewhere. (147 pp. hc)

★★★★★

Rob Rosenberger, **SHAREWARE: "TRY BEFORE YOU BUY" SOFTWARE** ($6.70 from Paradise Publishing attn: Mindy, 3111 S. Valley View Blvd. #B105, Las Vegas, NV 89102-8317): There's more to this book than you might expect. Rosenberger starts off with a basic explanation of shareware, what it is, and what it isn't. He distinguishes carefully between shareware and other things like crippleware, and explains that shareware is a marketing method, not some magic free software. He's clear and concise here, and if you're confused about what shareware is or why it warrants looking into, the book should help out. (If you own a computer and don't want to investigate shareware, I think you're making a mistake; many of the programs I treasure most are distributed in this fashion).

The next section deals with the nasty problem of computer viruses. It's little-known but true that most viruses get transmitted over public networks and through commercial software—*not* through shareware and BBS systems. Unfortunately, there are some folks who are making money by scaring other folks about viruses. Rosenberger's calming words on this subject are well worth reading. There's also a collaborative section, written with Ross Greenberg, which explains in more detail what viruses are and how to avoid them.

The book closes with a section on the ASP—the Association of Shareware Professionals. This is a group of shareware authors and distributors who set standards for the products they distribute and stand behind them, and it contains many of the best programmers using shareware. Trying out ASP-member shareware gives you assurances of quality and support which are not matched by some commercial vendors—Borland, who wrote the word processor I'm using now, springs to mind.

In sum, this short book is the best reference I know on the topic, and worthwhile reading for any computer owner. (64 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Asa Sparks, Ph.D., **THE TWO MINUTE LOVER** ($11.95 from B.L. Winch & Assoc./Jalmar Press, 45 Hitching Post Dr. Bldg. 29, Rolling Hills Estates, CA 90274-4297): This one is subtitled "Building Successful Relationships in a Fast-Paced World", and the author's thesis is that we ought to afford our long-term relationships the same careful efficient work that we do our other activities. It's told as the story of the Young Lovers, who visit a lot of the acquaintances of the legendary Two Minute Lovers to find out the secrets of their plan. What it boils down to is basically communication and focus; the Two Minute Lovers' plan breaks down into thirty seconds each of setting goals, admiring, admonishing and reflecting.

Maybe it's old-fashioned of me, but I'm not really sure I like this. Even granted that you can have lots of two-minute chunks in a day, there's something about this structured system that gets to me. Perhaps as a male I am simply afraid of commitment. Or perhaps what seems like a natural system to some is a straitjacket to others. Sparks does a good job of explaining his ideas, and I have no doubt that some people will latch on to them and use them. But they're obviously not ideas for everyone. (103pp. tpb)

★★★★★

David Stanley, **EASTERN EUROPE ON A SHOESTRING** ($14.95 from Lonely Planet Publications, PO Box 2001A, Berkeley, CA 94702): I took Eastern Europe on a Shoestring with me on a two-week trip to Czechoslovakia and Hungary in May 1989. Eastern Europe's a big place—the book covers Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Yugoslavia and the European part of the USSR—so I verified probably less than 1/100th of the information Stanley presents. But I did use it, and I also talked to other travelers to find out how they liked it. We all thought it was pretty good. It's often out of date, but what isn't? It's often superficial, but how do you cover nine countries and dozens of distinct regions (Serbia, Transylvania, etc.) in 667 pages? This book has the same problems as the other guides. However, it also offers a unique point of view that the other guides don't.

There isn't much available on Eastern Europe. Even after the revolutions, the region hasn't become a hot destination for the moneyed leisure class (although Club Med recently started talking to Bulgaria about taking over a Black Sea resort). The only widely available guides that I know of are Fodor, Frommer and this one. Fodor (Fodor's Eastern Europe) is slanted toward the relatively wealthy traveler and Frommer (Eastern Europe on $35 a Day) toward the budget tourist. However, both books offer information for travelers on a range of budgets, and a lot of the basic information is the same (history, transportation, major historical sites, etc.).

EASTERN EUROPE ON A SHOESTRING is aimed at the traveler with more time than money and a burning desire to experience the local culture. For instance, in the Czechoslovakia section the book devotes only a few pages to Prague, then tells the reader that if he really wants to know Czechoslovakia, get out of the city and spend time in the small towns and villages. The rest of the section is devoted to parts of the country most tourists (me included) seldom go. Stanley is pretty opinionated, which is good, since that's what you're really paying for in a guidebook - an informed opinion about where to go how to spend your time. If he thinks a particular museum is a waste of time, he'll tell you.

I didn't like the politics of any of the guides, but Shoestring was especially annoying. Fodor and Frommer commit sins of omission. They ignore the fact that most of these countries were until recently (certainly at the time of writing) totalitarian regimes. Stanley's sins are more overt: He is an active apologist for the pre-revolutionary governments. I should give him credit for trying to present an alternative viewpoint, but after seeing how much the locals hate their former rulers - in Prague it seems half the population wears these little "Communism = Death" buttons - I'm inclined to label him a totalitarian lackey. Maybe Stanley had a practical reason for his relatively positive view of the local governments - I doubt if any book with even a remote hint of criticism could have been carried across Ceaucescu's Romanian border nine months ago. In fairness to Stanley and Lonely Planet, the political sections contain some history even well-informed Americans don't know, and they don't make the guide any less useful.

Something I liked about Shoestring was the chapter on Albania. U.S. citizens can't go there (at least as of this writing - looks like that could change any day), so Fodor and Frommer ignore it. But the chapter on this little Stalinist backwater is fascinating for students of misguided utopias.

If you're going to Eastern Europe, my advice is to get all three books. The cost of the three (about $40) will be minor compared to the total cost of your trip. Each has something to offer. Two Texans I met said the best part of their trip was a visit to some remote caves in Yugoslavia - caves that were only mentioned in Frommer. I found myself using Fodor a lot because of the Czech vocabulary pages, something Shoestring lacks. If you don't want to carry all three books, you can copy the pages that interest you. (677 pp. tpb)(Guest review by Dan Armstrong)

★★★★★

John Strausbaugh, **GOING OUT** ($24.95 from Dolphin-Moon, PO Box 22262, Baltimore, MD 21203): This is something different: a novel being issued in monthly installments, with a three-ring binder to hold it all. Since Dolphin-Moon started out in January, we're about halfway through the story now, and the broad outlines are becoming clear. So far at least **GOING OUT** is a dystopian novel. The United States is coming to an end with neither bang nor whimper. Instead, it is disintegrating in smug indifference under a pall of superheated smog. The mastermind behind this all is General "Butthead" Stoker, a disciple of MacArthur's helping the now-dead great man get his revenge on the country that destroyed him. Only, of course, there are noble aims here: since the barbarians are coming to batter down the gates, might as well knock them down ourselves. Civilizations die, and this one is having the grace to go without a struggle.

Meanwhile, halfway across what's left of the nation is the Church of the Satellite, a group of shrewd religious nuts bilking the American public for a sizeable share of its net worth. Since the President—a powerless, almost figureless figurehead—is one of them, they're on a collision course with Stoker. I expect fireworks are coming.

Strausbaugh is pulling all of this off brilliantly, presenting a future that couldn't possibly be real and yet is detailed enough to be believable. The average man is living in a whirlwind of holographic pornography, endless shopping malls, Japanese investors buying everything that's not nailed down, synthetic food and government handouts (no longer stigmatized since 90% of the populace is doing the same). Meanwhile the few dedicated souls working for Stoker are axing Federal agencies right and left, on schedule to shut down the government completely in two more years. A fantastic semi-slapstick romp through a future that seems all too reasonable. (S-277 so far)

★★★★★

Margaret E. Stucki, **THE REVOLUTIONARY MISSION OF MODERN ART: OR, CRUD AND OTHER ESSAYS ON ART** ($16.50 from Ichthys Books, PO Box 1701, Glenwood Springs, CO): Stucki's thesis is fairly easy to sum up: that modern art is a manifestation of mental illness and people seeking to destroy Western society and traditional values. She's not cagy about who's behind this either—it's the International Communist Conspiracy (among other folks, she refers approvingly to the activities of HUAC in tracking down some of these nefarious political artists). I'm afraid the whole thing comes across as slightly hysterical to me, even making allowances for the fact that we are coming from very different backgrounds and prejudices as far as what art is and what it's for. Stucki's stridency is at least partly explained by her own experiences in trying to get a doctorate in the field; she got tossed out of a degree program because of her politics, it appears. But that still doesn't excuse the utter close-mindedness with which she approaches her subject. Even given that there is some nonsense—or "crud", if you will—I think we ought to look at the work *and* the political views of its producers, rather than deducing the meaning of the former from the latter. But then, I'm not an art historian. Conservatives will find things to nod along with here; radicals will be infuriated; the lay reader will perhaps merely be confused. (215 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Susanna J. Sturgis (ed.), **MEMORIES AND VISIONS: WOMEN'S FANTASY & SCIENCE FICTION** ($9.95 [plus shipping?] from The Crossing Press, 22-D Roache Rd., Box 207, Freedom, CA 95019): There are two important questions that this anthology tries to answer. They are whether there are women doing good writing in the field of speculative fiction, and whether "women's speculative fiction" is a distinct field.

To take the second question first, I have to remain unconvinced. There are major themes and feelings (meta-themes?) running through the pieces in this anthology: a concern with interpersonal relationships, a selection of strong women as protagonists, a drawing back (though this is certainly not universal) from the sort of technical detail that characterizes classic "hard" science fiction. But it's impossible to tell to what extent these features reflect something distinctive about women's writing, and to what extent they were shaped by the selection of pieces for this anthology. One would have to take a much wider look at the field, and consider the work being done by some of the more feminist male writers as well, to come to any conclusions. Even so, such subjects can be argued forever in the realm of introductions and doctoral theses.

The first question, though is much easier to answer, and the answer is a resounding *yes*. There is excellent work being done by women, and this book has an excellent selection—so much so, in fact, that I don't have the room to even mention all the stories which I enjoyed. (The ratio of good to bad work seems much better here than in many anthologies, a compliment to the skill of the editor and the submissions she had to work with). But a few examples will help show the scope of the writing. Lorraine Schein's "The Chaos Diaries" is an excellent piece of experimental writing, sharp and nontraditional, on the cutting edge of mystic science. "Killing Color" by Charlotte Watson Sherman is a tale of the everyday fantastic, a folk story for here and now. Barbara Krasnoff's "Signs of Life" is a very skillful SF story, set in an alien spaceport and making good use of otherness in several guises: gender, deafness, drug addiction all serve as barriers to be transcended, and the ending is both satisfying and unexpected. And "The Harmonic Conception" by Nona Caspers is an amusing story of lesbians and the second coming, a wild romp through cultural dissonance.

15 stories in all, and worth demanding that your local bookstore order for you. Enjoy it as a fine fiction anthology and don't gt too hung up on the sociological questions. (208 pp tpb)

* * *

Stefan Szczelkun, **CLASS MYTHS & CULTURE** (£ 5.95 from Working Press, 85 St. Agnes Place, Kennington, London SE11 4BB, UK): A collection of short essays exploring the image and reality of the working class. Of working class stock himself, Szczelkun challenges the notion that working class people are a bunch of worthless slobs, noting the existence of a working class intelligentsia and working class artists. Some of the most interesting texts here are not the theoretical pieces but rather the accounts of what happens when members of the working class are given the opportunity to participate in making art. The existence of large reservoirs of creativity can hardly be denied by anyone who bothers to look, no matter what the prevailing opinion in the halls of culture is. At the same time that he is rehabilitating the working class, Szczelkun looks at the circumstances of the artist, noting that the artists' place is not that of privilege as so often assumed, but one of being ruthlessly exploited. Chewy little essays, occasionally soaked in references to English culture which make them somewhat opaque to the American reader. (86 pp. tpb)

* * *

Maureen Wheeler, **TRAVEL WITH CHILDREN** ($10.95 from Lonely Planet, Embarcadero West, 112 Linden St., Oakland, CA 94607): Sometimes when reading the Lonely Planet series of shoestring travel guides and reports of exotic off-the-beaten-path places to visit it's easy to focus in on reasons for being an armchair rather than a physical traveler. One of the easiest excuses to make is "Oh, I couldn't take my kids there". Well, Lonely Planet co-founder Maureen Wheeler has gone a long way to answer that objection with this book, and show that you can in fact have an exciting and different vacation even with the kids along.

Wheeler should certainly know, having traveled with two kids of her own at ages from pre-natal (there's a whole chapter on traveling while pregnant) on up. She discusses both the obvious things (how to get discounts on plane tickets, how to keep the kids amused) and the less obvious ones (diapering alternatives, different food needs). Throughout, she shows that the key is to get the children involved with what's going on, rather than have them tagging along. Fortunately, in many other cultures children can be turned loose without worries, and will find things on their own to be fascinated by. (154 pp. tpb)

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BOOK NOTES

•**Avery Books** (120 Old Broadway, Garden City Park, NY 11040) carries a stock of books on health, nutrition, self-help, the new age, and (oddly enough) the military. Write and they will probably send you a catalog.

•**BOOK ADVENTURES** (3712 N. Broadway #190, Chicago, IL 60613) is a catalog devoted exclusively to rediscovered and unjustly neglected books. There's about 250 items for sale in here, with each entry annotated to make it easier to choose from things you may not have heard of. A sample catalog is $2.

•**BOOKS ARE EVERYTHING** (R.C. & Elwanda Holland, 302 Martin Dr., Richmond, KY 40475) run periodic auctions of vintage paperbacks. For their current catalog, send $5.

•**Bump In the Night Books**(133-135 Elfreths Alley, Philadelphia, PA 19106) are mail order merchants of used and rare SF, fantasy, and horror books. Their current catalog is pretty fat, with something over 1000 listings, and is probably about $2.

•**Cobble & Mickle Books** (PO Box 6533, Portland, OR 97228) specialize in unusual cookbooks, from California salsa cooling to the resurgence of molded foods. Catalog on request.

•**DC Books** (30 Clifford Dr., West Hartford, CT 06107) sells used SF and fantasy by mail, and will send you a catalog for $1.

•**Delectus Books** (27 Old Gloucester Street, London WC1N 3XX, ENGLAND) are purveyors of a variety of out-of-print and other erotic literature. Their recently issues fourth catalog covers materials from The Luxor Press and The Olympia Press.

•**Delta Press** (PO Box 1625, El Dorado, AR 71731) sent me a few of their recent catalogs. They stock a full line of books on combat shooting, improvised munitions, hand-to-hand combat, full-auto weapons conversions, and the like. They also carry survivalist books and gear, insignia and pins, posters, and signs saying cheerful things like "Trespassers Will Be Shot. Survivors Will be Riddled." $3 will get you their current main catalog.

•**Chris Drumm** (PO Box 445, Polk City, IA 50226) sells SF, fantasy and related books, new and used, by mail. He's also put out a bunch of booklets by folks like Lafferty which are well worth reading. And ask about his discount club which can save you money if you buy lots of new books. A buck will land you a sample catalog.

•**John Holt's Book and Music Store** (2269 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02140) is associated with GROWING WITHOUT SCHOOLING magazine, and has a new catalog out of books and other resources for homeschoolers. Try a buck for your copy.

•**Knowledge Systems** (7777 W. Morris St., Indianapolis, IN 46231) sell books and other "Resources for Effecting Personal and Social Change". Their latest guidebook/catalog is $2.

•**Lindsay's Technical Books** (PO Box 12, Bradley, IL 60915-0012) is the best source I know for do-it-yourself metalworking and related books—including such esoterica as how to cast your own parts to build your own lathe. Current catalog is $1.

•**Llewellyn Publications** (PO Box 64383, St. Paul, MN 55164-0383) sell all manner of New Age, Astrological, crystal, magic and related books. The current issue of their monthly NEW TIMES is available for $2.

•**Loompanics** (PO Box 1197, Port Townsend, WA 98368) has their summer catalog supplement out, with books like **THE BEST OF ABBIE HOFFMAN** and **DEATH ROW**. $3 will get you their current main catalog.

•**Robert A. Madle** (4406 Bestor Dr., Rockville, MD 20853) has a huge stock of collectible SF and fantasy books for sale, plus such rarities as a complete set of Ray Bradbury's early zine (for a cool $1500). Looks like about $2 worth of fat catalog.

•**David A. McClintock** (PO Box 1949, Warren, OH 44482-1949) sells a variety of fantastic books by mail, with an emphasis on collectibles. Send 25¢ for his current catalog.

•**Mystery Sales List #86** (Jeffrey Meyerson, 8801 Shore Rd. 6A-East, Brooklyn, NY 11209) has hundreds of mystery books for sale for the devoted collector. A buck should get you a sample list; next one will be out in September.

•**David Park** (841 Cleveland Ave., Albany, CA 94706) sells obscure and strange books by mail, from Tantra to the CIA to mind control to who knows what. His current book list will cost you about $2.

•**Quest Books** (PO Box 270, Wheaton, IL 60189-0270) is "The Theosophical Publishing House", and would probably send you their latest flyer on request.

•**Ryder Publishing** (BCM Box 3406, London WC1N 3XX, ENGLAND) is a book club specializing in sadomasochistic literature. They are open and honest about their sexual preferences, and will on occasion work from plot suggestions by readers. Current catalog is 1 stamp in the UK or $1 *cash* from the US.

•**Second Editions** (7951 Babb Ave., Skokie, IL 60077) is a used paperback store which has a sense of humor—or at least their newsletter, **CAT TALES**, does. A buck should put you on the mailing list for a while, though it really sounds like you should stop in.

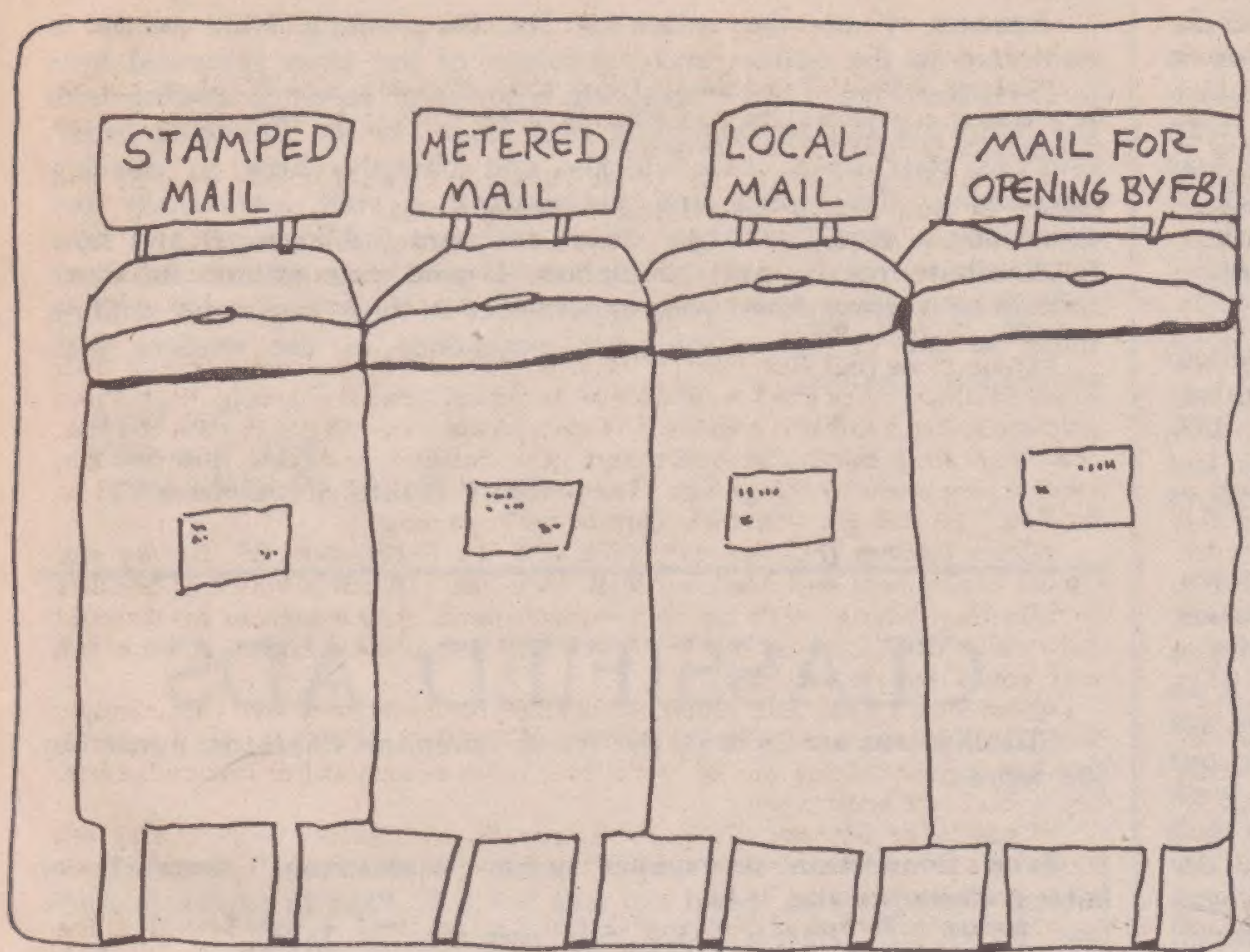
•**TIME TUNNEL** (313 Beechwood Ave., Middlesex, NJ 08846) is a bookstore—or at least a mail-order house—selling horror and related books by mail. It's also the title of a six-page newsletter reviewing their current stock. Maybe a buck will bring a copy.

•**Underwood-Miller** (708 Westover Dr., Lancaster, PA 17601) is bringing out six volumes of **THE SELECTED LETTERS OF PHILIP K. DICK**. The regular edition of the first volume is going to list for $39.95.

•**Water Row Books** (PO Box 438, Sudbury, MA 01776) specializes in the books of the beatniks and their intellectual heirs including folks like Kathy Acker and **HIGH WEIRDNESS BY MAIL**. About $2 for a current catalog.

•**Barbara Weindling** (69 Ball Pond Rd., Danbury, CT 06811) is a dealer specializing in cookbooks, mostly in the $8-$15 range. A buck should get you the latest catalog listing of a couple of hundred.

•**Mark Ziesing** (PO Box 76, Shingletown, CA 96088) sells great SF and screwball books and puts out a great catalog too. How great? Well, I read the darned thing cover to cover, which is better treatment than some zines get. If you're at all into buying strange and wonderful books, send two bucks to Mark and tell him I said to put you on the mailing list.



I am very interested in contacting folks in Central & Eastern Europe who produce music &/or comics. If you live in this zone, or have an angle on getting in, please write me at:

Per Plex
PO Box 451
Ridgefield, CT 06877.

★★★★★

I sent for some of the stuff listed in **FACTSHEET FIVE**, and I was very impressed by the (almost) uniform honesty and efficiency of the people involved in independent publishing. My experience with the small press was (is) minimal, and I kind of expected to be ripped off. However, this definitely did not happen. For example, **VIRUS23** had sold out of their premiere issue, but they sent me a photocopy of it, and sent back my money. Cool, or what? And Rodney Leighton of the **LEIGHTON LOOK** sent me some neat stuff in lieu of his zine (which ceased publication, for now) even though I had only requested a *free* sample issue.

Robert Chrysler

★★★★★

I've noticed the past couple of issues readers' letters complaining about non-receipt of magazines, etc., ordered from reviews in FF. I'm not doubting that people have had problems, but to balance the record somewhat, I feel I should mention that I've ordered dozens of publications this way and, to my knowledge, I've received every single one of them. Certainly, no one has cashed my check & neglected to send the goods. It's possible that I've just been incredibly lucky but, more likely, my experience reflects the general good intentions/record-keeping of the majority of small press people out there.

Noemie Vassilakis

★★★★★

Amok Press and Feral House Press have received numerous complaints about the mail order service known as the Amok catalogue. We wish to make it clear that we are in no way connected with either the mail order catalogue or the retail bookstore named Amok.

Amok Press and Feral House Press titles are *not* available from the Amok catalogue. But a Feral House Intelligencer, containing descriptions of our titles and ordering information, is available for the cost of an SASE from the address below.

Adam Parfrey
Feral House Press
PO Box 861893
Los Angeles, CA 90086-1893

★★★★★

Due to illness, two changes of address, and getting a full-time job within the past year plus my upcoming wedding, I've gotten a little sloppy about bookkeeping. If anyone has ordered a copy of my zine **SINGULARITY** and never received one, please drop me a line at 89 Mass. Ave. #189, Boston, MA 02115. Tell me which issue you didn't get, and I will send you that issue plus my next issue (#3) free of charge.

Ron Evans
SINGULARITY

★★★★★

I'm starting a postcard collection and would like to request your readers drop me one or two from wherever they live. In return I will drop them a note on official prison stationery telling them what life in the Florida penal system is all about.

Michael Gordon 118741/D-61
Glades Corr. Inst.
500 Orange Ave. Cir.
Belle Glade, FL 33430

★★★★★

Is there anybody out there who can help me find zines about soccer, especially coming from the US? I'm very eager to find out about the best sport and what's happening with it in the US (and Canada).

Eric Vonk
Lange Haeg 114
3853 EJ Ermelo
HOLLAND

★★★★★

Just wanted to thank you for the great review in #35 and let you know that it generated a considerable amount of response. I have made a few contacts and am putting reviews in a number of places. Dick Freeman's **PLAIN BROWN WRAPPER** gets a review of everything I get. I also have another positive and about four possibles. So, folks, keep sending stuff—reviews get published somewhere.

Rodney Leighton
RR#3
Pugwash, NS
CANADA
B0K 1L0

★★★★★

I am collecting grass from the grounds parks gardens etc. from around the world. To date I have 118 samples from 18 countries. The collection will be exhibited in 1992 when I hope to have upward of 300 samples. When I receive the grass I dry it out if it is not already dry and then put it in identical plastic bags about 2x3 inches, then label these with the place name, month and year, and donators name. Please help me fill my room with all the worlds grass so then I can write more perform more print more and live just a little bit longer.

M.A. Longbottom
Flat 2, 16 Tisbury Road
Hove, BN3 3BA
E. Sussex
ENGLAND

★★★★★

I've got a problem that your readers might be able to help me out with. For the past several years I've been looking in vain for a copy of a book by Robert Anton Wilson called "The Sex Magicians". I've tried book search outfits, digging thru tons of materials at used book stores, put out a lot of feelers, and came up empty handed. If someone has a copy they could part with, or is able to make a photocopy, I'd love to hear from them.

Joe Workman
154 S. Hedges St.
Dayton, OH 45403

★★★★★

Did you do the weird thin with the page order in #36 just to see if we were paying attention or is it a voodoo curse?

Cuyler Warnell Brooks Jr.

/* It was the Illuminati. */

★★★★★

Thank you for the short review of the Variant Audio Tape/Unseen Collection. There are a couple of things I'd like to pass comment on concerning the assertion in the review that one of the artists stole material from the band Einstuerzende Neubauten. Klaus Maecke in fact has worked with Neubauten quite extensively. Klaus is presently seeking a British publisher for his book on the band, which needless to say has been written with complete collaboration with the band, the same with the tape he produced, which I think was actually in circulation before the release of the Neubauten track.

William Clark
VARIANT magazine

★★★★★

Thought I would let you know how important FSF has been to The Zip-A-Di-Doo-Dada Publishing Foundation. 80% of the requests for our publications are generated by FSF reviews. Of these, 45% of the single-issue requests resulted in subscription purchases last year. If it wasn't for this "first contact" through FSF, we wouldn't be reaching nearly as many folks.

In June 1990, we relocated to 7625 Casstown-Clark Rd., Casstown, Ohio. Thanks to your mention of this move in the last two issues, we've already begun receiving mail addressed such. If any of you have written the old address and not received a reply, blame it on the post office's forwarding system. In mid-September 1990, we are again relocating—this time to Austin,TX. I will only be giving out the Austin address to close correspondents, however, because we'll only be there until December or January, after which we will permanently relocate to the Woods of Maine. Until then, the Casstown address will continue to receive our mail. The *best* way to ensure that the mail gets to us quickly is to pack a stamped envelope (with return address on it only) into another envelope addressed to Casstown. On this Casstown envelope write "FP" somewhere. This will direct our operatives to "please forward" what's inside to us in Austin. They will forward ALL mail to us but not quickly since they will let the mail accumulate before packing it into a fat envelope and forwarding it. The above method will ensure a quicker response. If you write and don't get any response within two months, blame it on the post office. I *always* respond to my mail. Publication of our books, zines, and newsletters will continue. After September, if you want to keep in direct contact, I will send you the Austin address.

Sean Wolf Hill
7625 Casstown-Clark Rd.
Casstown, OH 45312

★★★★★

We'd like to hear travelers' tales about cloth-optional and topfree beaches in Asia, the Pacific, and Africa. Sending info gets you a free copy of out forthcoming directory for these areas.

Tahanga Research Associates
PO Box 8714
La Jolla, CA 92038

★★★★★

Because of rampant chaos caused by a recent move and other factors, some orders and correspondence may have been lost. If you've been expecting something from me for a long time, drop me a line and you'll finally get results.

Colin Hinz
208 Laclie St.
Orillia, ONT,
CANADA L3V 4N6

★★★★★

I am collecting material which may be related to TATTOO. I am especially looking for books and or other reading materials. I will trade or pay money for interesting items. Interesting items could be anything from magazine articles, newspaper clippings, posters, postcards, paraphernalia, short stories, long stories, photos, etc.

Also, I have recently begun a bbs whose main topic is and shall be TATTOO. Call now with your opinions, questions, facts, trivia, etc. 404-888-0075, 11PM - 8AM (EST), daily. I am compiling databases of artists, studios, books, periodicals, organizations, films and videos. The main thing I seek is information. Any kind of information, fact or fiction, pro or con. All correspondence will be answered either by regular mail or electronically. Help promote the positive aspects of one of the worlds most ancient arts!

Eric Jennings
558 Seal Place, NE
Atlanta, GA, 30308

★★★★★

Readers, I am the columnist for the Fishing Hole which is dedicated to the editors and publishers of the zines reviewed here in Factsheet Five. I am attempting a series of columns dealing with the following issues, beginning next issue, in the following order: how to start up a zine quickly and cheaply, how to develop advertising, developing and maintaining a staff, ownership and governing a zine (for larger, more frequent publications) and how to distribute-free or paid circulation. I need you editors out there to help by writing down your experiences in those areas and sending them to me. I will relay your experience to the readers with attribution. Thanks.

Joe Lane
P.O. Box 4083
Terre Haute, IN 47804-4083

CLASSIFIED ADS

Classified ads are 25 cents per word, minimum 20 words, maximum 500 words.

Baby Connection newspaper needs "mainstream" drawings of babies. Cartoons also. Send bio and S.A.S.E. Pays in copies & credit line. BCNJ, PO Drawer 13320, San Antonio, TX 78213.

Black and White photographs processed, negatives printed for your publications. Models available. Jim Dapkus, RR1, Box 247aj, Westfield, WI 53964.

Meet new, unique and musically-diverse people through letter-writing! Join Punkpals! Send 2 stamps or 3 IRCs, your name, address, list of favorite bands, and a general comment to: Robert Brown, 2331 Blake St. #204, Berkeley, CA 94704.

NAUGHTY NAKED DREAMGIRLS, THE FADING UNIVERSE, FINE ART COMICS! $1.00 each postpaid. Andrew Roller, PO Box 221295, Sacramento, CA 95822.

POSTCARDS WANTED: Collector desires cards, world-wide, of all topics, old and new. Perhaps you have an accumulation of cards you want to get rid of. I would like to obtain them. The next time you travel please send me a card. I'd love to hear from you. Thanks. James Chapple, 1420 Western #206, Seattle, WA 98101.

Pro-Life, animal rights Libertarian would like to exchange ideas with like-minded persons. PO Box 254, Calpella, CA 95418.

SOUTHEASTERN SMALL PRESS: Meeting: September 8th, 8:00 p.m. Location: Burger King, 3520 Macon Road, Columbus, Georgia. All Small Pressers Welcome!

"TRAVEL VIEW 1". The largest penpal club in the world (well, we're getting there). For an application to join, or information on becoming an agent (specify; either, or both), in Canada send a LSASE, US: 50¢ mint stamps, Overseas: 1 IRC: Linda Yurkoski, TV1, Box 866, Penticton, B.C., Canada V2A 7G1.

WANTED: "The Alternative Printing Handbook", "Print: How You Can Do It Yourself", "Low Cost Printing For Development", all by Jonathan Zeitlyn, Britain. Some or all out of print. Buy or rent or borrow! Also—Low $ typesetting, paste up, etc., books and articles including PC/PC-Jr. DTP. Also PC-Jr. stuff & tips. James W. Jones, PO Box 97, Boston, MA 02101. Thanks!

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Quality Inn 1-518-438-8431 (between the airport & FantaCon)

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John Bryant is an internationally-recognized philosopher and logician, cartoonist, award-winning poet, commodity trader, pigeon fancier, *Who's Who* listee (four different volumes), and a member of the legendary high-IQ organization Mensa.

The truth can be pretty harsh, and that's why most people are afraid of it — and why they construct their lives around comfortable falsehoods and blissful ignorance. But John Bryant is one of the few people who is not afraid of truth. In fact, he has made a career out of excavating the forbidden corners of the human mind. The results of his efforts are a truly amazing collection of five books — books which can be appreciated only by the few who share his unswerving devotion to discovering how the world *really* works. His books are like lightning bolts to the mind — they provide powerful electrical shocks to our old ways of thinking. In fact, they have aroused such controversy that numerous national magazines have turned down *thousands of dollars* worth of advertising for these books.

But if truth can be harsh, then why look for it? The answer is simple: **Truth hurts, but falsehood hurts even more.** That is, in the *short run*, truth is more painful, but in the *long run*, not knowing the truth turns people into losers and failures. So while John Bryant's books may be thought of as works of philosophy, humor, literature and art, they are also — and most importantly — *prescriptions for living well.* In fact, these books yield so many benefits — success in marriage, significant power over others, secrets for financial success, and many other things far too numerous to mention — that the first catalog describing these books ran *16 large pages of small type.*

But while the reaction of common men to John Bryant's books has not infrequently been negative, there has been no scarcity of *superior* men to praise them, including more than **sixty** of the world's most distinguished philosophers, psychologists, scientists, authors, and other professionals — including **two** Nobel prizewinners. (See sampling of reviews below.) There is nothing surprising about this, however; for just as common men become failures because they embrace illusions and falsehoods, so superior men become successful because they possess the strength to *throw off* illusions and falsehoods.

So ask yourself: Are you a common man or a superior one? Or more precisely, **Do you have the COURAGE to be a superior man?** If so, then you **must** read these books. In fact, we'll **pay you** to read them. Here's our offer: If you buy all five books, we'll give you a whopping **25% off** the single-item price. Then, if you are dissatisfied with even *one* of them, you can return any or all within *one full year*, and not only will we give you a prompt refund (*including shipping*), but in addition we'll **pay you five dollars just to say "Thanks for trying".** (You can also buy individual books at their single-item prices, with full satisfaction guaranteed or money back (excluding shipping).) Please use coupon to order. Here are some reviews:

[On *PI*] "I don't know if [your] idea is the most powerful idea ever discovered, but I am certain that it is important." —Edwin C. Krupp, Ph.D., Director, Griffith Observatory; fellow, CSICOP (Note: CSICOP is the world's foremost organization of skeptics.)

"Thank you very much for sending me [*The Most Powerful Idea Ever Discovered*] ... I read it with great interest, fascination, and amazement ... Thank you for allowing me to share in your thought!" —Kenneth K. Inada, Professor of Philosophy, State University of New York at Buffalo

"I have read your book [*The Most Powerful Idea Ever Discovered*] and found that it contains a unique Idea which can help many people improve their behavior, providing they become sufficiently aware of its value ... Your [systems-theoretic approach] is a brilliant one ... I feel that most of your readers will respond positively to your Idea. I firmly believe that your Idea can be instrumental in lifting many people out of the valley of darkness (ignorance) and up to the mountaintop of light (knowledge)." —Joseph Abbott, Jr., author, *Absolute Power*

"I'm pleased to report that *The Mortal Words of J.B.R. Yant and Other Irritations* was commended as excellent. Good writing, well presented, profoundly interesting: these are justly earned words of praise for a work [as] outstanding [as this one]." —James A. Cox, Editor-in-Chief, *Midwest Book Review*

"[W]itty and often fascinating ... the book [*Mortal Words*] makes most interesting reading!" —Dr. Albert Ellis, world-renowned author/psychologist

"[*Mortal Words*] was very entertaining." —Dudley Moore, actor

"... outrageously funny ... [*Mortal Words*] is so good [that] I dedicated [three newsletter] pages to samples." —Gene Hopp, editor, *MEN'S Advocate*

"Thank you for sending me [*Success in Marriage —GUARANTEED!!!*] ... I read and re-read your texts ... I was very interested in your proposals and I am grateful to you for sharing them with me." —Dr. Audrey P. Riker, clinical psychologist and author, *Married Life*

"I received [and read] your booklet on success in marriage ... What it says is valid, and it has the advantage of brevity." —David R. Mace, Ph.D., behavioral scientist, family specialist, and author, *Success in Marriage*

"I heartily endorse *Bryant's Law and Other Broadsides*. It should be required reading before graduation from high school." —Robert Russell, President, *International Society for Philosophical Enquiry* (Note: The *ISPE* is a super-high IQ organization twenty times more exclusive than the legendary high-IQ group Mensa.)

"... if you enjoy being provoked about economics, sex, technology, poetry, politics and a dozen other topics, [*Bryant's Law*] is an excellent book to get hold of." —Mike Gunderloy, editor, *Factsheet Five*

"Many thanks for sending me a copy of your fascinating Bryant's Law piece [the lead article in *Bryant's Law*] which is certainly both amusing but, more important, substantively relevant and pointed." —Milton Friedman, Nobel laureate in Economics

"To say [*Bryant's Law* is] controversial is an understatement. In these times of greater and greater social conformity, the ideas expressed here seem not only controversial but subversive, unlawful and dangerous. In other words, they're very interesting. ... Nearly 400 pages by a fine thinker. From fluoridation to psychotherapy, from incest to the superstitions of tennis, Bryant writes cleanly, coolly, with a great deal of wise perception. Unusual essays radiating a steady truth that brings a moral shock of recognition." —Jay Bail, *The Book Reader*

___ I wish to take advantage of the "Pay You" offer described above: I have enclosed $39.95 (full price including shpg.) which is 25% off the single-item price of John Bryant's books.

___ Please send me the books indicated, for which I enclose $______ as payment at the single-item price: ___ *M. P. Idea* ($4.95+$1); ___ *S. in Marriage* ($4.95+$1); ___ *M. Words* ($9.95+$2); ___ *B. Law* ($12.95+$2); ___ *S. Theory* ($12.95+$2).

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